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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.5: For Frid., Jan. 1

States To Debate Planning Programs

Legislation in the planning field is not necessarily legislation for the creation of planning agencies, Walter H. Blucher, executive director of the American Society of Planning Officials, points out. However, he says, eleven of the 47 state planning boards in the country have not been made official by law, and legislation may be sought in 1937 to give them official status.

Boards in these eleven states-- Arizona, Georgia, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, Nevada, Ohio, South Carolina, and West Virginia-- are now acting as governors' boards.

A study of the programs of state planning boards shows that Tennessee is interested among other things in governmental reorganization, Oregon in the use of Bonneville power, Virginia in transportation, Florida in aviation-- all as parts of programs for the planning of their respective states.

Legislation needed to carry out planning programs, involving finance, subdivision control, county zoning, social security or conservation will come to the foreground as forty-two state legislatures prepare to meet in January.

Although most of the states in the union have adequate city planning and zoning legislation, Mr. Blucher observes that the county planning and zoning found so effective in California, Wisconsin and a few other states will give impetus to other state legislation to pass enabling legislation. Since another real estate "boom" is foreseen, legislation will doubtless be sought he says, to tighten control of subdivisions in the effort to prevent land wastage.

Since problems affecting cities, counties or states are not necessarily respecters of fixed governmental boundaries, planners will be interested in legislation which will permit areas with similar problems such as land use, reforestation and water pollution to create regional bodies to deal with these problems. To date 18 states have set up either county or metropolitan (or sometimes both) regional planning commissions, looking to this end.

"It must be emphasized," said Mr. Blucher, "that planning legislation so-called will be among that sought by other bodies, such as highway commissions, conservation departments, boards of education, park and recreation authorities to make effective their programs for city or state development."

A round-up by the A.S.P.O. shows that these following states have planning boards established by legislative action: Louisiana, Mississippi and Pennsylvania, with laws passed in 1936; Alabama, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Missouri, Montana, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Wisconsin and Wyoming, with laws passed in 1935; Kentucky, New Jersey, Virginia, Washington, with laws passed in 1934; and Maryland, with a law passed in 1933. Connecticut, although it passed enabling legislation in 1935, will consider its law again, since the original act setting up a planning board will expire on July 1, 1937. Only the state of Delaware reveals lack of any state planning provisions.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1937
Release No.6: For Sat., Jan.2

Indiana Expands Personnel System

"With the adoption last week of uniform personnel classification and compensation plans by the state boards of public welfare and unemployment compensation, the state of Indiana is now operating one of the most complete public personnel systems found anywhere in the country," according to Donald C. Stone, Director of Public Administration Service.

"The unique feature of this personnel program is the voluntary action by two separate state agencies in establishing a joint personnel system, administered by a joint bureau of personnel. The only statutes on which this new personnel set-up is based are two acts adopted in April, 1936, which, in establishing the Departments of Public Welfare and Unemployment compensation, provided that the respective boards select employees on a basis of merit examination and that service ratings be made of employee performance."

The Public Administration Service of Chicago was retained to draw up rules and regulations for personnel administration, prepare classification and compensation plans, set up office procedures, organize an examination program, and make recommendations concerning an employee rating system.

The Bureau of Personnel which serves both departments is comprised of a policy-determining joint committee on personnel administration composed of the directors of the two departments and an outside chairman appointed by these two and approved by both boards. The present chairman is the personnel officer of a large industry. The rules and regulations provide for the appointment of the director of personnel by the joint committee from an eligible list prepared from an open competitive examination.

Under the Director of Personnel is a technical staff of examiners, classification, and other personnel technicians. To date twelve state-wide examinations have been conducted in order to develop eligible lists from which new appointments must be made. Present employees of the two departments have been required to make satisfactory grades in such examinations in order to maintain their positions.

Eventually the jurisdiction of this joint system may be extended from the 500 employees now in these two rapidly growing agencies to include other groups of state employees.

At the same time that the state has taken this initiative in developing a personnel plan for these two departments, the state League of Women Voters is taking steps to have a state-wide personnel system adopted. The League plans to introduce in the January session of the Assembly, a bill which provides for a commission to appoint a state director of personnel charged with the responsibility of administering a complete personnel program for all state departments and agencies.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.1: For Mon., Jan.4

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States Start Sessions Today

Five state legislatures--California, Idaho, Montana, Ohio and Tennessee--meet in regular session today (Jan. 4), according to information gathered by the Council of State Governments. Twenty-one others will convene before the week is out.

The remainder of the week's legislature schedule is as follows: Tuesday, Jan. 5 - Delaware, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and South Dakota; Wednesday, Jan. 6 - Colorado, Connecticut, Illinois, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, New Hampshire, New York, North Carolina and Vermont; Thursday, Jan. 7 - Indiana.

Next week's dates for legislative gatherings are: Monday, Jan. 11 - Arizona, Arkansas, Iowa, Oregon, Utah and Washington; Tuesday, Jan. 12 - Kansas, New Jersey, New Mexico, South Carolina, Texas and Wyoming; Wednesday, Jan. 13 - West Virginia and Wisconsin. Nevada meets Jan. 18, and on Monday, Jan. 25, Georgia will meet for a special session to elect officers and introduce bills. This session will run ten days, and the regular statutory session is expected to start at that time. Florida's legislature convenes April 6.

Much of the important legislation to be discussed before these bodies will come up before the Third General Assembly of the Council of State Governments, called for Jan. 21-24 in Washington. Interstate commissions from various areas will debate and act on questions involving interstate action, such as social security, crime, and taxation, according to Henry W. Toll, executive director of "COSGO."

States not meeting in regular session this year are: Alabama, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi and Virginia. Among the forty-three which do, the Council has prepared, through questionnaire, the following break-down on outstanding legislation to be considered:

SOCIAL SECURITY -- Twenty-six states will consider social security legislation, including bills on unemployment insurance, old age and mothers' pensions, aid to blind, dependent children, crippled and handicapped children -- in general, to bring state laws into conformity with the federal Social Security Act, so that the

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respective states can benefit by federal contributions.

TAXATION -- Many states expect to consider important tax bills, including sales, income, gasoline and liquor--in general to provide funds for social security. Some states will consider general revision of their taxes to provide more equitable distribution and to balance budgets.

CRIME -- Forty-one states will be faced with proposals to facilitate criminal apprehension and conviction including uniform bills for interstate cooperation in the matter of extradition and fresh pursuit of criminals, securing of witnesses, and to facilitate probation and parole treatment. There will be miscellaneous proposals for stricter control of the sale of firearms, general revision of departments of justice, and some attention to systems of pardons and parole.

LIQUOR -- Several states will consider measures pertaining to liquor control, including the tightening up of laws on the sale of spirits, local option bills, and in some cases laws to abolish state monopolies of plug up loopholes in the system. One state will consider a system of temperance education in its public schools.

MISCELLANEOUS -- Civil service merit bills will be introduced in 14 states. Other states will consider new bills for the regulation of public utilities and banks. Two states will face the problem of reorganization of state departments. Several legislatures will have before them bills for reapportioning congressional districts. Conservation matters will occupy the time of three state assemblies. School bills -- particularly for teachers' tenure and retirement -- will be proposed in at least five states, namely, West Virginia, Utah, New Mexico, Kansas and Mississippi.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1 9 3 7
Release No.2: For Tues., Jan.5

States Meet With 19 Lacking Security Laws

Of the forty-two state legislatures convening this month, five of which met yesterday (Mon.,Jan.4), nineteen are deficient in complete public assistance legislation (aid for the aged, blind and dependent children) although more of this type of social security law has been passed than any other, research done by the American Public Welfare Association within the last week shows.

The nineteen states are: Arizona, Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee and Texas, all of which lack one or more of the three necessary elements in the public assistance part of social security. Georgia, Nevada, South Carolina and Tennessee have no laws at all in this category. South Carolina and Tennessee are the only states in the union with unemployment compensation laws and no public assistance plans. They passed their jobless insurance measures in recent special sessions.

Of the twenty-six states whose regular legislative sessions meet this week, twelve -- Delaware, Illinois, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota and Tennessee -- will have to take some sort of action if they are to participate in all of the public assistance provisions of the Social Security Act. Several of these states will have the benefit of reports from official governors' or legislative commissions for state planning in public welfare.

"Public Assistance," as it is known, has these facets -- old age assistance, aid to the blind and aid to dependent children. On the federal level, the program is the responsibility of the Social Security Board. Before a state has any responsibility in these matters, it must take the initiative. Requirements are: Appropriate legislation; a state plan submitted to the Social Security Board, and definite administrative responsibilities if the plan is approved by the board. Many

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of these states also will deliberate administrative changes in their public welfare set-ups.

Five states -- California, Idaho, Montana, Ohio and Tennessee -- met yesterday (Mon. Jan.4) in regular session and social security is certain to be high on their legislative slates, either for direct action, or for amendment to existing laws.

California has provided plans for all three phases of public assistance, as have Idaho and Ohio. Montana has legislated a plan for old age assistance, but lacks any for aid to the blind or for dependent children. Tennessee also must enact such laws to bring it into conformity with requirements of the federal-state social security program.

Eight states are meeting today (Tues. Jan.5). They are Delaware, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and South Dakota. Delaware, Minnesota, North Dakota, Rhode Island and South Dakota will find it necessary to pass public assistance measures in some form or other. Nebraska, Oklahoma and Pennsylvania all have complete legislation for the three-ply assistance plan.

Here is the status of various states meeting the rest of the week: Wednesday (Jan.6) -- Colorado (has all three laws); Connecticut (has old age and blind, but none for dependent children); Illinois (old age aid alone); Maine, (all three); Massachusetts (all three); Michigan (all three); Missouri (old age only); New Hampshire (all three); New York (old age only); North Carolina (blind only), and Vermont (all three).

Altogether, twenty-four states have all three public assistance plans. They are: Arkansas, California, Colorado, District of Columbia (act passed by Congress), Idaho, Indiana, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan,Mississippi, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Utah, Vermont, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin and Wyoming.

According to A.P.W.A. research within the last two weeks, forty-two states have old age assistance plans; twenty-eight have plans for aid to the blind, and twenty-seven have plans for aid to dependent children.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1937
Release No.3: For Wed., Jan. 6

Revenue Crisis Found Facing Cities

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State legislatures meeting this month will, in many cases, face the job of saving the financial lives of their cities and counties. Unless new revenues are provided, according to Carl H. Chatters, executive director of the Municipal Finance Officers' Association, hundreds of cities, counties and villages in the United States will have to abandon important municipal services in 1937. "The revenue problem of local governments," says Mr. Chatters, "surpasses all others in its immediate importance."

There are at least half a dozen reasons for the financial distress of cities owing to inadequate pocketbooks, Mr. Chatters explains:

1 -- The wave of municipal bond defaults has passed and nearly all of the important cities and counties are paying the principal and interest on their debts, which requires money.

2 -- Instead of a demand for fewer governmental services, movements are under way to shift the revenue burden from real estate taxes to other sources.

3 -- Reduction of local expenditures, found in all headlines a few years ago, has become exceedingly difficult. Wholesale commodity prices, according to the index of the U. S. Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, have increased 30 per cent since October, 1932. Therefore, a municipality which paid $1,000,000 for supplies and materials in 1932 must expect to pay from $1,200,000 to $1,400,000 in 1937.

4 -- Salary cuts have been partially or wholly restored in most cities, but with municipal employees not benefiting from the Federal Social Security Act, and wages and salaries going up in private business, many officials and employees may choose to leave the public service, unless the local governments can react with increased pay.

5 -- Local governments must also face an increasing share of the relief burden which the federal government may turn back to them.

6 -- The reservoir of delinquent taxes, built up generally from 1929 to 1933, collection of which has served recently to bolster municipal revenues, is "going dry". Something must be found to take its place.

Finance officers of cities and counties of many states like Ohio, West Virginia, Michigan and Florida have a particularly difficult problem, Mr. Chatters points out, because of restriction placed on their income by tax limitation or homestead exemption laws. In other states including Massachusetts, New York and Pennsylvania, bitter fights will be waged to prevent the adoption of similar overall tax limitation laws. The legislatures will be asked to distribute more state-collected revenues to local governments. In some cases this will mean new taxes; in others, it will involve a transfer from one activity to another, such as using the gasoline tax for unemployment relief instead of for roads. In addition, school officials insist on a guarantee from the state that education be carried on even though it means the taking of funds from other activities.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
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Release No.4: For Thurs.,Jan. 7

National Civil Service Week: January 10-16

National Civil Service Week will be observed January 10-16, with many groups throughout the country participating, according to announcement of the Civil Service Assembly News Letter.

Representatives of the National Civil Service Reform League, the National League of Women Voters, the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada, the National Federation of Federal Employees and the General Federation of Women's Clubs are among those tentatively scheduled to participate in two or more national radio broadcasts. Local units of the National League of Women Voters and the Junior Chamber of Commerce of the United States are planning local broadcasts, while others are arranging listening-in parties. The University of Chicago Round-Table, a Sunday radio feature, will be devoted to a discussion of civil service administration on some Sunday in January.

Observation of National Civil Service Week comes at a time when state legislatures are opening their 1937 sessions. The Civil Service Assembly News Letter reports: "It seems highly probable that several legislatures meeting this year will receive merit system bills for their consideration as a result of the intensified civic interest shown in civil service during 1936." Among the states that do not have civil service commissions now but may get them in 1937 are listed Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska and Tennessee.

The news letter points out that "civil service was forcibly brought to the attention of the United States early in 1936, when the National League of Women Voters, through its state organizations, began a strong campaign for the extension of the merit system in all the states and in the federal government.

"The adoption of the Social Security Act by the United States Congress stimulated the extension of the merit system in a number of states. One state, Kentucky, established a personnel division without passing a formal civil service law. In Oregon a state law was passed providing that cities over 5,000 in population should vote on whether or not they desired civil service for firemen. Six cities of that state voted 'yes'."

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
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1 9 3 7
Release No.5: For Fri.,Jan.8

New Public Works Body Formed

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The two organizations known as the American Society of Municipal Engineers and the International Association of Public Works Officials are now operating as a single society -- the American Public Works Association -- it was announced today by Frank W. Herring, executive director. These two agencies have proceeded for two years under a joint secretariat with Mr. Herring as director and Norman Hebden, Assistant Director.

"The American Public Works Association is conceived as an organization which combines and extends the aims and objectives now pursued individually by the A.M.E. and the I.A.P.W.O.," said Mr. Herring. "In no sense does its formation mean a retreat from the high principles for which these two organizations have stood for so long. Rather it means a further development, an expanded activity and a greater vitality in the pursuance of those aims."

A recent check-up on membership disclosed that the total was 811. Of these, 349 were members of both organizations; 392, members of the A.M.E. only, and 70, members of the I.A.P.W.O. only.

The new constitution reads:

> "The purposes of the Association shall be the advancement of the theory and practice of design, construction, maintenance, administration and operation of public works facilities and services; the dissemination of information and experience upon and the promotion of improved practices in public works administration; the encouragement of the adherence by public works officials to the high professional standard, and the professional and social improvement of its members.
>
> "The Association is not organized for profit and no part of the earnings shall inure to the benefit of any member or officer, except as compensation for services rendered or for necessary expenses actually incurred."

Any person holding an elective or appointive position on a public body engaged in public works or who is an executive officer or consultant of such a body, is eligible for active membership in the Association.

Explaining the merger, Mr. Herring said:

"Although the A.M.E. has emphasized the problems of the designer and the I.A.P.W.O has emphasized those of the operator, their membership has overlapped considerably, and -- particularly during the last five years -- they have appealed to the same group of public officials. To a growing degree they have also been concerned with the same phases of the whole public works field. It is now the thought of their governing boards that a formal union of their strengths will make possible, through providing a common meeting ground for engineers, operators and administrators, a still more effective organization dedicated to the improvement of the public works service."

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Release No.6: For Sat., Jan. 9

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Cities Study "Master Plans"

The strong provisions of New York City's new charter for a city planning commission are being studied in several other sizeable cities over the nation as numerous state legislatures which would have to provide enabling legislation for certain planning ventures prepare to meet, according to Walter H. Blucher, executive director of the American Society of Planning Officials.

He points out that the following states are actually considering some form of state planning legislation: Arizona, Georgia, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, Nevada, Ohio, South Carolina and West Virginia. Legislation necessary to implement planning programs will come to the fore in many others of the forty-two legislatures getting ready to convene. These laws will involve finance, subdivision control, county zoning, social security or conservation.

Regarding the city planning field, the A.S.P.O. News Letter describes New York's commission as provided in the new charter in this way:

> "It will be remembered that the city planning commission proposed by the charter is to consist of the Chief Engineer of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment and six members to be appointed by the Mayor for overlapping terms. The Chairman, also named by the Mayor, will receive a salary of $15,000 a year. Each Borough President is to appoint an advisory planning board of three members who will serve without compensation. It will be the duty of the planning commission to prepare a master plan and to pass upon changes in the zoning ordinance and upon subdivisions and plats, also to develop a long-time planning program. Plans are to be submitted to the Board of Estimate for its approval. The commission can be over-ridden only by a three-fourths vote."

Mr. Blucher observes that there is general agreement among planning authorities that the master plan, as proposed in New York, is essential for the community plan. "Emphasis," he said, "is given to the matter of replanning blighted areas and housing. It is asserted that there can be no proper housing program, there can be no adequate plan for the redevelopment of blighted areas unless both are related to the general plan for community development.... What is essential is a general community plan which takes into consideration such matters as population and industrial trends, and which locates the housing projects -- whether in blighted or slum areas or on vacant land -- in relation to transportation, highways, industries and other residential areas."

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News Bulletin of
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Release No.1: For Mon., Jan. 11

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Nebraska's One-House Legislature Faces First Tests

Nebraska's streamlined, one-house, all-male legislature, which opened its first session in the skyscraper capitol at Lincoln last Tuesday, will have its first chance to prove the efficiency of its organization when it confronts action on unemployment insurance compensation, interstate compacts against crime, and liquor control. These are problems scheduled to be considered by the 43 legislators as they go into their second week's session, with organizational matters cleared up.

Organization and procedure of the new legislature as outlined in the law that created it should make possible effective results, points out Henry W. Toll, executive director of the American Legislators' Association.

The fact that the legislative body is small, compared with the typical 157-member bodies of other states, makes it unnecessary to have the characteristic large number of committees, which so often slow down and strangle action, in the opinion of authorities who have studied the unicameral process. Procedure of considering a bill is simple now in Nebraska, each step in the course being final, with no shifting of responsibility to a second house. The fact that bills must be introduced five legislative days before a vote is taken eliminates the possibility of hasty or ill-considered action. Time limit on sessions has been removed, so there need be no quick and careless disposal of bills in the rush of closing days of the session.

Thirty-two of the 43 Nebraskans in the new one-house legislature have been either senators or representatives in previous sessions, which should be an advantage, Mr. Toll adds. This 75 per cent of experienced legislators is appreciably higher than the average. Figures compiled by the American Legislators' Association on 7500 legislators of 1935 show that more than half the senators and representatives have never sat in a legislature before, and that 21 per cent had served in only one previous session. Nearly 40 per cent of the 1936 Nebraska legislators have had at

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[illegible] to be concerned by the 43 legislators so long as they [illegible], with organized [illegible] matters [illegible].

[illegible] and procedure of the new legislation as outlined [illegible] should come [illegible], points out [illegible] of the American [illegible] Association.

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[illegible] weeks, with [illegible] body [illegible] a second house. The fact that bills must [illegible] days before a vote is taken [illegible] least two sessions' experience.

Thirty-four per cent of the state legislators in 16 states are college graduates, according to a sampling made by the American Legislators' Association. Nebraska again compares favorably, showing 41 per cent college graduates and 63 per cent who attended an institution of higher learning.

"This pioneering unicameral legislature in Nebraska has enviable opportunity for utilizing improved and modernized legislative devices, such as the legislative council, legislative research services, and a well-planned, properly organized committee system," says Mr. Toll, who attended the first session in Lincoln. "Its true merits, however, cannot be determined from the opening days of the session, nor even from the entire session. It will require the record of two or three sessions. Conditions will, of course, be very different when the people of the state and of the nation have ceased to focus their attention on this novel law-making body, and when the zest of the new enterprise and the floodlight of publicity have died away. Undoubtedly the unicameral will prove more effective than the two-house legislature in the enactment of good measures. The problem will come in the blocking of bad measures. However, time should find a way, and it may be that compared to the 1947 model, this 1937 Nebraska set-up will prove to be what the Model T was to the present limousine."

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
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Release No.2: For Tues., Jan. 12

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Social Security Measures Needed in Many States

Only four of the 16 legislatures starting regular sessions between now and the end of January have "all-star" records with respect to plans for participation in all phases of the federal-state Social Security program, according to information gathered by the American Public Welfare Association. This means that twelve of these states face action on public assistance, unemployment compensation, and other measures if they wish to benefit from provisions of the Social Security Act.

Legislatures of six states responded to the opening gavel yesterday (January 11)--Arizona, Arkansas, Iowa, Oregon, Utah and Washington. Today (January 12), Kansas, New Jersey, New Mexico, South Carolina, Texas and Wyoming meet; and tomorrow, West Virginia and Wisconsin. Nevada meets next Monday (January 18) and Georgia, Jan. 25.

The four states whose entire set of plans for public assistance, unemployment compensation, public health, vocational rehabilitation and child and maternal welfare have been approved by the Social Security Board are New Jersey, New Mexico, West Virginia and Wisconsin. Three other states --Georgia, Kansas and Nevada-- lack plans for public assistance and unemployment compensation measures.

A constitutional amendment providing for old age assistance passed the Georgia legislature in its last session, but the governor vetoed it. There is still some debate in Georgia as to whether the state has constitutional limitations preventing participation in the public assistance features of the social security act--a current cause for concern also in Missouri. No test has yet been made of such legislation. The people of Kansas signified their approval of legislative action for state-wide assistance to the needy aged and for unemployment compensation insurance by initiated statute voted on November 3, 1936. At present only those phases of the social security program relating to health and child welfare are operating in Kansas.

Practically all 48 states have approved plans for public health work and vocational rehabilitation now in operation. Recent information on accepted plans for child welfare services, crippled children's services and maternal and child health services indicates that nearly all states have these provisions also.

Status of the 16 states convening during the rest of the month on the four major provisions of the social security act is as follows: Arizona--adequate on all but old age assistance; Arkansas--no unemployment compensation law; Georgia--lacks all three public assistance plans and unemployment compensation provision; Iowa--no provision for aid to blind or aid to dependent children; Kansas--lacks public assistance and unemployment compensation plans; Nevada--lacks public assistance and unemployment compensation plans; Oregon--lacks provision for aid to dependent children; South Carolina--has only unemployment compensation insurance; Texas--has only old age assistance and unemployment compensation; Washington--needs an amendment to its unemployment compensation law; Wyoming--lacks unemployment compensation. In addition to the four states which have all plans approved, Utah has made provision for public assistance and unemployment compensation insurance, but still is without plans for crippled children and maternal and child health services.

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PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE　　　　1 9 3 7
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Airport Support for Municipalities

American cities have invested large sums to provide airport facilities for both public and private plane users during the past few years but benefits other than self-advertising and goodwill have flowed to state and federal as well as city governments. The time has come when definite and complete federal action is needed for a national system of civil airways and airports, in order that the cities may know where they stand for the future.

This is the gist of a report made public today by the American Municipal Association. The report includes a resolution adopted at a recent meeting of the Association's executive committee in Washington, D.C. which calls attention to the problem and recommends a complete projected national system of civil airways, including the establishment of financial reponsibilities of the various agencies benefiting by such airports.

At present, the report points out, approximately 2,000 airports and landing facilities are operated in the continental United States, of which 475 come under the classification of municipal airports. About 200 of these 475 airports, representing an investment of several hundred millions of dollars, are utilized as terminal facilities for the National Civil Airways System that was set up in July, 1936. In most cases the report finds the major part of these investments has been made at the expense of local taxpayers, and without consideration of the broad public service or national service rendered by these facilities. Figures on 36 airports show a total capital outlay of $34,198,614 and a total annual expense of $1,550,087.

There are three functions of an airport serving as a part of an established airway system, the report finds: First, local use; second, service in interstate commerce to a population in an area ranging from 50 to 400 miles in radius; third, use for national defense purposes. Rapid growth of air transportation is fast leaving

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most municipal terminal facilities in an obsolete condition, it is pointed out, and to keep step with the development in air transport equipment, immediate further planning and development of municipal air terminal facilities becomes necessary.

Federal agencies, in the opinion of the committee, should consider federal responsibility for any projected civil airways program on a basis similar to the federal responsibility in the national highway system and rivers and harbors. Such consideration, however, would be for airports in accordance with their federal value--as stops on the national airways or for national defense--after proper coordination through state aeronautical officials and in compliance with federal requirements governing design and construction features, maintenance and operation of the civil airways terminals.

Substantiating the statement that the demand upon airports has increased greatly in the past year or so, the report cites the fact that passenger traffic has increased approximately 23 per cent and express traffic about 100 per cent. Pilot licenses have increased many thousand; airplane mileage flown, about 200 per cent. Larger and heavier planes are being designed, to weight 160,000 pounds, as compared with the average 18,000- to 28,000-pound plans now in use.

The fact that airports, while financed locally, are both interstate and national in character is emphasized. No power exists, however, by which local governments can create and derive any revenue from the interstate business carried on through airports. It is imperative, says the committee of the American Municipal Association, that the federal government, with its licensing powers of ship, pilots and airports for the National Civil Airways and interstate service, first make more definite and complete plans to which the states and their municipalities may gear their plans. The aviation industry during 1936 consumed 45,500,000 gallons of gasoline and 1,180,000 gallons of oil. Federal taxes alone on these items amounted to $466,800. State taxes, varying from 1 to 6 cents per gallon, totaled an appreciable amount, but only in a very few cases has the money collected on aviation gasoline and oil sales been used directly for airport improvements on other aids to air navigation.

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Release No.4: For Thurs., Jan. 14

Legislation by the People in 1936

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1936 was a banner year for direct legislation by the people of the sovereign states, according to a tabulation just published by the National Association of Secretaries of State and the Council of State Governments. The people of 39 states, asked to submit their voting opinion on a total of 180 measures, approved over 50 per cent of the proposals in the form of constitutional amendments, initiated and referred statutes.

Subjects of the measures upon which voters were asked to give their direct decision ranged from courts and crime to education, social security and taxation. A total of 27 measures was up in 10 states on taxation alone.

Eighty-eight of the 148 constitutional amendments submitted found favor with their electorates. Eight of the 18 initiated measures were approved. Only three of the 14 referenda were approved.

Comparison with previous years shows that the number of consitutional amendments submitted and the proportion approved by voters in 1936 was noticeably high. In 1935, over half the amendments proposed were approved, but the total number submitted was only forty. In 1934 seventeen states utilized direct legislation, gaining approval on a total of 27 amendments. Figures for previous years show that in 1933, 10 states submitted constitutional amendments; in 1932, 23; in 1931, six; in 1930, 21; in 1929, five; in 1928, 18; and in 1927, eight.

Last year all measures proposed in seven states--Arkansas, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, South Carolina, South Dakota and West Virginia--received the voters' "okay." In three states--Alabama, Oregon and Washington--all measures proposed were defeated. Louisiana voters, who faced 34 constitutional amendments on the ballot, adopted all but one of the measures.

In addition to these legislative measures passed upon by the people in 1936, three states legislatures meeting during the year approved constitutional amendments that must be reapproved at their next sessions before they can be submitted to the electorate. The Delaware General Assembly passed a constitutional amendment increasing the per diem remuneration of its members. New Jersey's proposed amendment provides for biennial sessions of the legislature, which now meets every year. Pennsylvania's legislature adopted five amendments. The most important ones concern tax exemption and limitation and conduct of the popular vote on constitutional amendments when two or more are submitted.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.5: For Fri., Jan. 15

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Contracting for Municipal Services

Los Angeles County, California, is drawing attention of governmental students and taxpayers the country over because of its contractual plan for performing governmental duties for cities which makes it possible for them to eliminate certain departments and buy the services instead.

Prof. Frank M. Stewart, University of California political scientist, describes the progress of the arrangement which has been in force for nearly two years, in the January issue of Public Management, magazine of the International City Managers' Association. Prof. Stewart is a member of the Committee on Governmental Simplification of Los Angeles County and also of the Citizens' Committee on Governmental Reorganization of Los Angeles City.

Los Angeles County, he explains, has been authorized by state legislation to assess property and collect taxes for all except first-class cities that elect to secure this service by ordinance. The assessor of Los Angeles County, chosen for a four-year term, assesses all real and personal property in the county and in 38 of its 44 cities as well. The county tax collector, appointed by the County Board of Supervisors under civil service regulations, collects taxes for the county, special districts, improvement districts, improvement districts, and for 38 cities. Los Angeles is one of the cities, paying $22,350 per year for these services. All other cities pay a small percentage of the total amount of money collected.

A civil service enabling act, enacted at the last regular session of the California legislature, authorized the legislative body of any city to adopt by ordinance a personnel system. Authority is given the legislative body of any city to contract with any other municipality or county within the state or with any state department. Under this law two cities have already signed contracts with the Board of Supervisors for the Los Angeles County Civil Service Commission to perform certain civil service functions for fire and police department employees. Negotiations are under way for a contract with a third city and others have indicated an interest, according to Prof. Stewart.

For 1935-36 the Los Angeles County Health Department had contracts with 36 of the 44 incorporated cities in the county to regulate their health functions. A new law of 1935 has made some important changes with regard to city-county health relationships. Future health contracts made by the county with cities must provide for the repayment to the county of the entire cost of rendering the services to the city. Enforcement of mandatory state board of health rules such as quarantine regulations and vital statistics is done gratis for the cities.

In the field of police administration there are a few minor contractual relationships. While permissive legislation exists, there are no contracts between the county and cities for fire protection. Library service and maintenance of public buildings are other services contracted for at present.

The chief problem now, according to Prof. Stewart, is the ironing out of what some of thecities consider inequalities of burdens and benefits under the contracts.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.6: For Sat., Jan. 16

Committee on Assement Principles Formed

Assessment meth

In property tax administration, it is general agreed that the most important and difficult work is performed by the assessing officer. When this work has been brought to a reasonable, widespread, standard of efficiency, it is felt that much-deserved criticism of property tax administration will vanish, and the tax itself be accepted with less hostility on the part of the public who pays it. This thought is behind the latest undertaking of the National Association of Assessing Officers, which recently organized a Committee on Principles of Assessment Practice to develop a statement of the principles which should be followed if good assessment administration is desired.

Assessment administration is a field of the public's business that has been woefully overlooked, Albert W. Noonan, technical director of the N.A.A.O., points out. "While there has been much gnashing of the teeth at the inequities of the property tax," he said, "only within recent years has much been done of a concrete nature to remove the most fundamental defects. Bad assessment practice is certain among these, and it is expected that the report of this association committee, which will be available shortly, will provide necessary guide posts to those assessors and citizens who have been long aware of the problem, but somewhat uncertain what to do about it.

"Authorities are also agreed that for a long time to come the property tax will remain the most important source of revenue for local governments, meaning in particular, counties, cities, school districts, etc. Improved assessment practice will go a long way toward elminating many injustices which are not inherent, but exist mainly because of poor administration."

Members of the committee, announced by John A. Zangerle, President of the National Association of Assessing Officers, are:

Chairman, Charles D. Rosa, State Tax Commissioner, Madison, (Wisconsin); Members:- Timothy Murray, Commissioner of Assessment & Taxation, Yonkers (New York); James J. Casey, Principal Assessor, Cambridge (Massachusetts); Walter H. Miller, County Assessor, Kansas City (Missouri), and D. Feiereisen, City Assessor, Cedar Rapids (Iowa).

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.1: For Mon., Jan.18

A.M.A. to Study Municipal Employee-exemption from Social Security

The problem of the 2,400,000 state and local governmental employees who are exempt, along with farm hands, domestics and seasonal laborers, from provisions of the Federal-state socials security program, will be studied by a special committee appointed by the American Municipal Association, according to an announcement issued today from the Association's Chicago headquarters.

Andrew W. Joyner, president of A.M.A., said that the study it is being undertaken as a result of widespread demand that the Social Security Act be amended if possible to include the governmental employees.

There are constitutional questions as to whether such groups can be included, Mr. Joyner pointed out, and whether the federal government can enforce a levy of payments from either state or local governments for the purpose of social security benefits.

Among possible alternatives the committee will consider is enactment of optional laws by which each state separately may provide for public employees within its borders. Whether the states can impose taxes equal to the federal tax for social security measures upon its political subdivisions, which, in turn, would be paid to the federal government for annuities; and whether a city can voluntarily pay into the federal fund an amount equal to the federal tax and require its employees to contribute a corresponding amount will be among other questions examined.

"If provision for municipal and state governmental employees is made in the Social Security Act in the future," said Mr. Joyner, "there will be need for considerable adjustment of benefits under retirement plans and pension funds already existing in some cities. Also involved will be the question of transferring benefits under existing pension plans or under possible state social security laws in instances where state and local employees move from one governmental jurisdiction to another within the state, or from state to state. These matters will come within the scope of the Association's study."

Individuals invited as committee members for the study are: William Hodson, commissioner of public welfare, New York City, Morton L. Wallerstein, Richmond, Va., executive secretary, League of Virginia Municipalities, and Arthur C. Meyers, director of the budget, St. Louis, Missouri.

The American Municipal Association is the national federation of the state leagues of municipalities, which represent approximately seven thousand large and small cities in forty states.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1 9 3 7
Release No.2: For Tues., Jan.19

Police Increase Use of Motion Pictures

Police departments are finding the movies--their particular brand of them--very useful these days. According to the Police Chiefs News Letter, official bulletin of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, recent developments indicate that police departments are using motion pictures for four definite purposes: (1) in police training courses; (2) in identification work; (3) in preserving and presenting evidence; and (4) in advising the public of traffic and other hazards.

New police training films have been made within the past few months in Kansas City, Mo., and Wichita, Kans. These films, which show the "right" and "wrong" way of making an arrest, how to give first aid in an accident, and other knowledge useful to an officer of the law, are now being used in the training schools of police departments in several other cities.

The feasibility of using films in the police line-up, for identification purposes, is one of the main subjects for discussion on the program of the Interstate Commission on Crime at its meeting in conjunction with the Council of State Governments' Third General Assembly in Washington, D.C. on January 21. The idea here is that a brief movie, possibly with sound, will record unmistakeable characteristics of the criminal offender more adequately than photographic "stills" or fingerprints. High cost of film apparatus is the main reason motion pictures have not been used extensively for criminal identification, according to the News Letter.

The Los Angeles Police Department has found the sound camera practicable in preparation of evidence in criminal cases. "Shots" are made of automobile drivers arrested on intoxication charges, and a sound track is made of their statements. When the interview is flashed on a screen in the courtroom, the charge has infallible support, and the necessity of depending entirely upon the memory and testimony of the arresting officer is eliminated.

Jacksonville, Florida, citizens were shown a film last month in which the "cast" was made up of known pickpockets and shoplifters. The purpose was to warn against the shoplifting particularly during the holiday season. Kansas City, Missouri has prepared and is using two safety films -- one shows how adults were killed in Kansas City in 1935 and how to avoid fatal accidents; the other is a safety film for children in the public schools.

Use of films for safety education is not confined to this country. The News Letter also reports that such a distant city as Hong Kong, China, employs both film and slides to demonstrate safety first measures to adults and school children.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1 9 3 7
Release No.3: For Wed., Jan. 20

Public Administrators Found to Face Big '37 Job

The business of government shows a creditable record of improvements in 1936, but ----- a big job still confronts public administrators, according to an editorial audit in the current issue of Public Management, official magazine of the International City Managers' Association.

On the "credit" side of the ledger, these accomplishments are listed:

In-service training of employees advanced on many fronts, with particular interest directed toward the extension course program of the Institute for Training in Municipal Administration, and toward developments promised by the George-Deen Act, which permits expenditure of vocational education funds for the training of public service employees....The merit system as a recognized method of appointing and administering public personnel made gains in all levels of government....Public housing projects got under way in at least 35 cities. The Resettlement Administration made definite progress in the construction of its three Greenbelt projects "which offer a real challenge to city planners and city managers alike as an opportunity to develop model suburban communities will all the advantages that ensue from starting from scratch."

...In all states but one, state planning boards made comprehensive inventories of natural resources. Although many of these reports were directed toward agriculture, rural land use, and the development of mineral and forest resources, attention was paid to planning problems more directly related to cities, such as governmental organization, public works, and planning of economic and social development....Governmental research opened up new avenues of progress with the establishment of a Department of Budget and Research in Los Angeles County, development of a Department of Investigation in Minneapolis, and the creation of a Department of Municipal Research and Service in Louisville.

(MORE)

Simplification of governmental structure was advanced by the inauguration of council-manager charters in Saginaw, Mich.; Toledo, O.; and Monroe County, N.Y., and by the adoption of a new city charter in New York City, which carries the principle of proportional representation to the largest urban community in the nation....State leagues of municipalities continued to demonstrate the soundness of co-operative action on the part of cities. A number of them adopted the practice of group purchasing previously experimented with by only one or two. The Michigan Municipal League offered an outstanding example of co-operative development by inaugurating a personnel service available to all cities in the state.

On the "debit" side of the ledger, Public Management points out these things: The country still staggers under the load of supporting over 170,000 units of government, even though recognized experts estimate that governmental functions could be most adequately performed by approximately 10 per cent of this number....Citizens of many communities are still compelled to cast ballots for almost every municipal official from the dog catcher to the mayor, "with the inevitable dulling of civic interest and lack of public control over the acts of public officials." ...Should the predicted "boom" take place, it will emphasize the need for more intelligent municipal control over the subdivision of land so that the haphazard partition of property experienced in the '20's may be avoided.

Relationships between federal, state and local governments are still in a somewhat chaotic state and much can be accomplished during the coming year to clarify these relationships and make them really effective....County government is still, in some respects, the most backward in its general lack of government reorganization and simplification....Public works, as a continuing function of government, needs to be released from its emergency and depression status and put on a par with police, fire, health, and other essential services....With public recognition on a nation-wide scale of the right of private employees to organize and to bargain collectively, public administrators will have to face the problem of organization of public employees....Much can be accomplished in the development of neglected personnel functions in cities.

"The depression has awakened civic interest in government to a point never before attained," Public Management points out, "and municipal administrators must meet the challenge not only of rendering social services to the community but of exercising a very real responsibility to the public for the performance of public administration in the public interest."

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1 9 3 7
Release No.4: For Thurs., Jan.21

Toward an Understanding Of Government

Problems that puzzle citizens and those who hold municipal purse-strings will be brought out into the open and given expert attention through a service just inaugurated by the Municipal Finance Officers' Association of the United States and Canada.

As announced by Carl H. Chatters, executive director of the Municipal Finance Officers' Association, an advisory service in municipal accounting will be made available in cooperation with the state leagues of municipalities and national organizations that want improved municipal accounting and reporting. The municipal leagues now exist in forty states and represent a total of 7,000 cities.

The advisory service will be given at the specific request of any city or village. It will utilize the standards developed by the association's accounting committee and the National Committee on Municipal Accounting. The Association staffs will, on request, review the financial reports of local officials and give them a statement of how closely they conform to these standards and will give a bill of particulars telling how they may be improved.

This action by the association will benefit other movements to improve the accounting and reporting of local governments. The Atlanta Constitution has just announced prizes totaling $7,500 for the Georgia county making in 1937 the greatest improvement of benefit to its citizens. The New Jersey Taxpayers Association is sponsoring a competition for better municipal reports. The Vermont Chamber of Commerce through James P. Taylor has long been a pioneer in this field. Clarence E. Ridley, Editor of Public Management, is now making his tenth annual criticism of municipal reports. His efforts have brought about a marked national interest in the preparation of annual reports understandable to the ordinary citizen.

In addition to offering this service to local finance officers on their special problems, the Municipal Finance Officers' Association has prepared a reading course and study program on municipal finance. From it public officials can increase their knowledge on tax collecting, budgeting, general accounting and other subjects.

"Because the job of the municipal finance officer is taking on added importance," says Mr. Chatters, "the Municipal Finance Officers' Association wants to help prepare progressive officials for their increasing responsibilities. It wants the finance officer to be the leader and adviser on all financial matters. He can assume this position only when he is better informed than anyone else in the governmental organization of which he is a part."

The Municipal Finance Officers' Association is a professional association of finance and accounting officers of cities, towns, villages, counties, and other local governments, and state finance departments. Numbered in the membership of 500 are auditors, controllers, comptrollers, directors of finance, treasurers, clerks, finance commissioners and other finance officers of these political subdivisions.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.5: For Fri., Jan.22

Employees Interested in In-Service Training

Public service employees are definitely interested in training themselves on their jobs, if reports from civil service commissions of two cities and one state quoted in the current Civil Service Assembly News Letter are a criterion.

A recent annual report of the Civil Service Board of Oakland, California, announced that local municipal employees have organized study classes as a result of policy changes inaugurated by the board. The report adds that particular credit is to be given to the year-old police school, voluntary attendance at which averages more than 90 per cent.

In Jacksonville, Florida, the Civil Service Board announces that employees are showing great interest in preparing themselves for promotional examinations. To assist particularly policemen and fire fighters, the Civil Service Board last month established a library to provide members of the uniformed departments with information on special techniques applying to their jobs and to the duties of supervisory officers. The Jacksonville Civil Service Board plans to develop classes for police and firemen to be financed through the county department of vocational training.

The State Personnel Board of California recently reported that a group of state civil service employees has organized a class to study the principles of public administration. This class is now a part of the adult education program of the Sacramento school system.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1 9 3 7
Release No.6: For Sat.,Jan.23

State Aid Sought for Public Libraries

State aid to improve and expand activities of public library systems will be sought in at least 12 states in 1937, according to reports made to the American Library Association at its recent midwinter conference in Chicago. In these states -- Arkansas, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, North Carolina, Ohio, Tennessee, Texas, Washington, Michigan, Vermont and West Virginia -- grants are asked for purposes ranging from extension of work of the state library to organization of a complete system of regional libraries.

Washington and Texas have the most plans to consider. In Texas, state aid of $750,000 will be asked, to strengthen the extension work of the state library and give service to localities now without it. Washington's plan calls for an appropriation amounting to not more than $800,000 for the biennium, to improve existing libraries and for development of county and regional libraries.

Tennessee's proposal is part of the state planning commission's legislative program for education, $300,000 being requested for a two-year period for libraries, including both regional and school agencies.

Ohio is seeking state aid of $200,000 for 1938-39, distribution to be made by the state library at its discretion. A feature of the distribution is the continuance of large grants to one library per county, this library to aid weaker libraries in the county or extend service to rural areas.

In Illinois, state aid of at least $500,000 will be sought for the biennium, according to tentative plans. Half would be distributed to existing libraries on the basis of population, and half given for service to new areas through contracts with existing libraries by means of county and regional agencies.

In North Carolina plans are made to ask for state aid for a complete system of regional libraries. Idaho is seeking an increase of nearly $40,000 to support its free traveling library commission, and to begin developing regional branches.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1937
Release No.1: For Mon., Jan.25

18-Year Old Gas Tax Earns $616,000,000 A Year for States

State gasoline tax laws must be made more uniform in structure, administration and maximum rate if this tax that celebrates its 18th birthday in 1937 is to be a permanent part of our tax structure. This is the judgment of Finla T. Crawford, Syracuse University professor of political science and gas tax authority, in his study: "The Gasoline Tax in the United States, 1936," which has just been published by Public Administration Service, Chicago.

Prof. Crawford intimates that there is every reason to suppose that this six hundred million dollar revenue-producer will be kept on the law-books, despite trouble over enforcement and over distribution of the proceeds.

Tax rates on gasoline may or may not be on the hoped-for decrease, says Prof. Crawford. Opposition to rate increases has stiffened in almost every state. Study of rates since 1919, when Oregon pioneered with a tax of a penny a gallon, shows that the curve of increase flattened in 1933 and has since remained at a fairly even level. Present rates range from 2 cents to 7, with seventeen states levying a 4-cent tax and nine states a 3-cent tax. Since 1932, the rates in certain states have been frozen at high levels because legislatures have pledged returns from the tax to pay off principal and interest of bonds for both highway and general government purposes. In 1935, 18 per cent of the total tax collections of all states was expended for miscellaneous purposes. This action has taken care of the bonds, but leaves highway construction and maintenance without sufficient funds, Prof. Crawford points out. Gradual withdrawal of federal and relief funds that were used for highways during the "make-work" years will accentuate the need for replenishment, he adds, and the result may be a demand for higher tax rates.

Another factor that may keep the taxes "up" is the intensified drive which cities have been making for a greater allocation of state levies on gasoline. The American

(MORE)

Municipal Association, which represents approximately 7,000 cities in forty state leagues of municipalities, reports that legislatures of at least a dozen states will be approached on this matter in 1937. A tabulation by Prof. Crawford indicates that in only ten states do city streets benefit from the state gas tax at present. The cities in general would like to see up to 50 per cent of their contributions returned for city highway purposes. They also seek exemption from both registration and gasoline taxes on municipal vehicles.

A third factor preventing tax rate reduction, according to Prof. Crawford, is the pressure for cutting the general property tax, which might well mean continuing and increasing state aid from gas tax revenues for bond payments, relief, education and miscellaneous purposes.

Prof. Crawford warns that the gas tax has provided revenue "which seemed to be a never ending stream, and we have been encouraged to believe that it is an unlimited resource. Low prices of gasoline have allowed, under the name of taxation, excesses which must be checked in order to preserve a successful source of revenue. This illustration of an endless supply of money should not serve to encourage reckless expenditure for highways or other purposes, and thus destroy a method for their reasonable financing which has achieved a popularity far in excess of any other form of taxation."

If rates alone were made uniform, he comments, "some of the most serious objections raised by the tax bearer might be eliminated. The development of uniformity is necessarily slow, but its acceleration would do much to continue the populatiry of this form of raising revenue."

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.2: For Tues..Jan.26

State Legal Obstacles to Housing Action

Housing legislation occupies front-row space before several of the state law-making bodies now in session, according to a check made by the National Association of Housing Officials. The reason is that in many cases state laws stand in need of additions and amendments, if local housing authorities are to be set up to assume responsibility for legal, technical and financial problems that will be theirs under the forecasted decentralized housing policy. Moreover, as many as 27 of the states are without any law enabling the establishment of local housing authorities.

As an example of state constitutional obstacles, Coleman Woodbury, executive director of the National Association of Housing Officials, cites the case of New York, which can make no loans to municipal housing authorities for low-cost housing. Limitations are also constitutionally imposed upon the financial assistance which New York cities could render through the issuance of bonds. As a solution of the problem, the governor, in his inaugural message, recommended enactment of an amendment which would enable the state to issue bonds for the purpose of making loans to municipal housing authorities, and to modify debt limitations and restrictions upon cities so that they can participate financially in low-cost housing. A bill proposed on this subject, and now in committee, would amend the New York State housing law to provide for a system of state financed projects by municipal housing authorities and authorize the creation of a state debt of $100,000,000 for this work.

Among other states in which legislative steps are being taken to make possible municipal participation in low-cost housing is Massachusetts, which is considering a bill authorizing cities to subsidize housing projects to the extent that the costs of present municipal services to the project will exceed the taxes assessed against the site. Massachusetts also has a bill authorizing the state housing agency to develop projects in cities where local housing agencies are not active or do not exist.

Only 21 states at the present time have legislation enabling the creation of housing authorities. The growth of public opinion and of legal precedent has been so rapid, comments Mr. Woodbury, that some of these laws already require amendment to meet current needs.

State constitutions should be checked on five points before a housing authorities law is drafted, Mr. Woodbury points out. These concern: (1) The form of bills: Limitations on the subject matter and title, such as the provision that not more than one subject may be embodied in any one act, or that the subject must be clearly expressed in the title. (2) Limitations on the grant of the power of eminent domain (land condemnation) and the methods of its exercise: Must there be a jury trial, and on what issues must the jury pass? (3) Municipal home rule: Is this construed to authorize municipalities to assume new functions, such as housing? (4) Limitation on the debt-incurring power of public bodies: Does the limitation include "special revenue" obligations which are a lien only upon the property or revenues of the issuing agency? (5) Will the property of the housing authority automatically be exempted from taxation under the constitution or must this point be covered in the law?

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News Bulletin of
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850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1937
Release No.3: For Wed.,Jan.27

The Recent Unemployment Compensation Laws

Greater liberality for the workers covered ~~and increased~~ tendency toward simplified administrative procedure characterize the unemployment insurance laws passed by the 19 states just before the January 1st deadline, as compared with the 18 state acts previously approved, according to an analysis made by the American Public Welfare Association. In general, the analytical bulletin, just released, points out that the laws passed in December bear a greater similarity to the model bills prepared by the Social Security Board.

The analysis refers specifically to these provisions:

1. The substitution of "earnings" for "weeks of employment" in determining the duration of benefits, which should reduce the record-keeping burden imposed on both the employers and the administrative agencies.

2. Substitution of a fixed percentage of "actual earnings" in the highest of several base calendar quarters for a product of "average hourly earnings" and "normal full-time weekly hours" in the computation of the normal full-time weekly wage, upon which benefits are based.

All of the 18 laws passed before December 1, 1936, used the old method of weeks of employment for these computations. Fifteen of the 19 laws passed since December 1 use the "earnings" method.

3. Introduction of a "benefit year" and a "base period" broken up into calendar quarters. This means in effect that a worker's rights to benefits are computed at the end of each calendar quarter. The date when the worker first becomes eligible for benefits begins his "benefit year," during which he may receive benefits up to the amount to which he was entitled as of the date when the benefit year began. This eliminates the necessity for computing a worker's right to benefits every time he suffers a period of unemployment.

(MORE)

4. What constitutes, in effect, a reduction in the employment qualification period imposed on the employee to become eligille for benefits. The qualification in the later laws has been changed from a minimum number of weeks of employment to a minimum amount of earnings.

5. A reduction in the waiting period. Nearly half of the laws passed during December provide for a waiting period of any two weeks in the preceding 52. Six of the previous laws provide a waiting period of 2 out of the preceding 13; seven provide for a period of any 3 weeks in 52. The others specify waiting periods ranging up to 4 successive weeks in 52 and any 6 weeks in 52.

6. A slight increase in the maximum duration of benefits. Most of the new laws provide for a 16-week maximum, with seven of them setting a 12-week to a 15-week maximum. Of the previous laws, only 5 provide a 16-week maximum, 5 provide a maximum of 15 weeks, and the rest range between 12 and 20.

7. Tendency to abandon employee-contributions. Of the acts passed prior to December 1, nine provide for employee-contributions and nine place the burden solely upon the employer. Of the acts passed during December, only two provide for employee-contributions.

8. An increase in laws with straight-pooled funds, without provision for "merit-rating." This means that employers contribute at a fixed rate, not getting a reduction in rate at times when their unemployment ratio is low, or being penalized when their unemployment ratio is high. There are now nine laws in all providing for straight-pooled funds.

Administration of unemployment compensation laws is one of the big worries, the bulletin indicates, and there has been some criticism that many of the state laws were passed without paying enough attention to administrative problems and implications. The comment is made that the failure or success of this form of social insurance may hinge upon the ability of the administrators to solve their complex problems.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
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1 9 3 7
Release No.4: For Thurs., Jan.28

Progress of Council-Manager Government

Management - [illegible]

Conduct of municipal affairs under the council-manager plan of government is now in vogue in 459 cities of the United States and other parts of the world, according to a bulletin just issued by the International City Managers' Association summarizing developments during the two-year period 1935-36. Four hundred forty-four of the cities and 7 counties under the system are in this country.

A total of 19 cities and 1 county adopted the council-manager system in 1935 and 1936, the summary indicates. Sixteen of these cities range in population from 1,000 to nearly 25,000. Three are over the 50,000 mark, and the county - Monroe County, N.Y. - has a population of 423,881. Only one city abandoned the plan by vote of the people last year, and during the whole five-year period from 1931 to 1936 inclusive, only six cities, one town, and one village made this decision.

Nearly one city in every five of those over 10,000 population in the United States is operating under council-manager government, it is found, although ten states have neither statutory nor constitutional provisions under which cities may adopt the council-manager plan without first securing specific legislative consent. These states are Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Maine, Mississippi, Rhode Island, and West Virginia. States in which certain cities can adopt the manager plan are: Alabama, Louisiana, Maryland, Nevada, New Hampshire, Utah, Washington and Wyoming. No city in any of these states, however, has done so.

At present, 36 states have manager cities. Michigan heads the list with 46. Virginia, with three council-manager counties, shows 38 cities as well. Texas and Florida have 37 each; and other states show from 1 to 33. Among the large cities functioning under council-manager government are Cincinnati and Toledo, O.; San Diego and Oakland, Cal.; Kansas City, Mo., Schenectady, N.Y., Oklahoma City, Okla., Knoxville, Tenn., and Dallas, Texas.

The council-manager plan was first adopted by Staunton, Va., in 1908. Its acceptance in the past twenty years has been contemporary with the decline of the commission plan. For two years now there have been more council-manager cities in the United States than commission-governed cities in cities over 10,000.

Activity for council-manager government is currently in the air in at least three states. Hamilton County (Chattanooga) Tennessee is working on a county-manager bill which is to be introduced in the present session of the Tennessee legislature. Under auspices of the City Club of Chicago a proposed city-manager enabling act will be introduced in the present session of the Illinois legislature. In Nebraska a county-manager enabling act, declared unconstitutional by the State Supreme Court upon previous passage, is being resubmitted to the legislature.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1 9 3 7
Release No.5: For Fri., Jan.29

Interest in County Planning Grows

County planning is on its way toward an important berth in the field of planning, according to Walter H. Blucher, executive director of the American Society of Planning Officials. Mr. Blucher bases this belief on the activity reported at a recent meeting of Oregon planning officials (Jan. 7-8, in Portland), and upon a review of county planning progress in 1936.

"Heretofore county planning has usually had the connotation of county zoning, as practised mainly in Wisconsin, to set aside forest and recreation lands," Mr. Blucher explains. "In addition to such physical planning, Oregon counties are going ahead with the gathering of information that will enable social planning, which is equally as vital."

Oregon, whose state planning commission was organized barely two years ago, now has 28 unofficial county planning commissions, the status of which may be officialized by legislation to be sought this year. Fourteen of the 28 planning commissions presented reports of their accomplishments at the Portland meeting, which was attended by 350 people, the great majority of whom were interested in county planning, according to Mr. Blucher.

Clackamas County, Oregon, pioneer in county planning in the state, stands at the head of the list, with several million dollars' worth of WPA and PWA improvements made possible by existence of a previously prepared plan. Other counties report plans in the making for solution of irrigation problems, protection of forests, zoning, grazing, etc.

Principal work of the 14 active county planning commissions during 1936 included making base maps and maps showing land ownership, assessed valuation, land use, tax delinquency, recreation areas, mineral and water resources; investigating water resources and uses, including the social implications of the Bonneville Dam project, marginal land problems, transportation, school surveys, public welfare; and carrying out studies on special problems requested by the state planning board.

Florida was another state that took steps in 1936 toward widespread county planning, establishing 67 county planning councils, according to Mr. Blucher. County zoning showed increasing activity also in various parts of the country. Orange County, California, passed a county zoning ordinance that will prevent misuse of the land. DuPage and Will counties, Illinois, have gone in for county zoning. Michigan's legislature adopted an enabling act on county zoning.

"Planning on a county basis is not feasible in all states," comments Mr. Blucher. "Obviously, it might prove illogical to establish a new county planning agency in certain 'cut-over' areas where there is a dwindling and sparse population. County zoning, on the other hand, can prove beneficial in such cases. It is being found in such states as Oregon, Washington, Wisconsin and Florida that the county makes a very satisfactory unit in preparing plans for the orderly development and maintenance of county resources."

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[illegible] ger planning officials (Dec. 7-9, in Portland), and upon a review of county

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.6: For Sat., Jan.30

Increasing and Decreasing Cities

Population

The popular impression that the growing city is a gay one and the city decreasing in population is sad, gets statistical backing by Prof. William F. Ogburn in the current issue of Public Management, official magazine of the International City Managers' Association. The discovery may be a significant one, according to Prof. Ogburn, for the reason that the rate of population increase for the United States as a whole is slowing up markedly. Throughout the history of this country, he explains, there has been an increasing population, with the correlated attitudes of hope, progress, expansion and enterprise. Should the population become stationary in numbers or decrease, he says, "it seems probable that there will be corresponding changes in attitudes."

Forty-one cities, half of them on the population upgrade and half showing a decrease, were chosen by Prof. Ogburn for his study, which is one of a series on social characteristics of American cities. In general, the findings of Prof. Ogburn showed that economic advantages are somewhat better in cities that are growing and indicated the basis for a more optimistic spirit.

Economically, the comparison showed that the average annual earnings in manufacturing are $1,250 in the increasing cities and $1,210 in the declining ones; in retail stores, average annual earnings amount to $1,330 in increasing cities, as compared with $1,320 in the decreasing cities. Rent paid is $29.50 a month in the growing cities; $23.30 in those losing population. Average value of a house and lot was found to be $5,500 in the decreasing cities, and $200 more in the increasing ones. The ratio of families having radios is 45 per cent in the growing cities; 41 per cent in the decreasing ones.

Social facts found were these: More physicians practice in the increasing cities -- .38 per cent as compared with .29. For lawyers the same difference is noted -- .35 per cent as compared with .27. There are more adults and middle-aged in the increasing cities. The percentage married is definitely greater in the increasing cities -- 61 per cent as compared with 56 per cent in the decreasing cities.

As to the economic indices of family life several differences were noted. More families with boarders and lodgers -- 12 per cent -- are found in the increasing cities, while in the decreasing cities there are only 9 per cent. There are also more hotel keepers and a slightly greater number of persons engaged in personal and domestic service. More married women are employed outside the home in the growing cities. Home owners are more frequent in the communities growing rapidly, where one-half the families live in houses they own.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.1: For Mon., Feb. 1

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Social Security Inclusion Sought for Municipal Employees

Cooperation of the Federal Social Security Board has been assured the American Municipal Association in its study of the possible inclusion of state and municipal employees under the Social Security Act, Clifford W. Ham, executive director of the Association, announced today.

The American Municipal Association has appointed a Social Security Committee to make a special study of the plight of the 2,400,000 state and local governmental employees who are exempt from the federal-state social security program. Committee members are Morton L. Wallerstein, executive secretary of the League of Virginia Municipalities, chairman; William Hodson, New York City commissioner of public welfare, and Arthur C. Meyers, director of the budget, St. Louis, Mo.

A recent conference of the Committee with officers of the Social Security Board in Washington resulted in substantial agreement by the Committee on the following points:

1. That it was not now feasible to seek an amendment to the Federal Constitution, necessary in order to make the inclusion of all state and local employees compulsory, and to enable the federal government to levy unemployment compensation or old age security taxes in line with the present taxes to provide for employees in non-public activities.

2. That unemployment of government employees is or can be taken care of in the state unemployment programs. Therefore, it is inadvisable to attempt to include the unemployment features in any presently considered amendments.

3. That the inclusion of state and local employees should be on an optional state-wide basis. It appears feasible to allow each individual state to determine whether or not employees should be included within the provisions--on a state-wide basis, not on the basis of smaller units.

(MORE)

4. That if the Social Security Act could be amended to allow such optional inclusion, the Social Security Board might determine the minimum standard for compliance by the "state optional act."

At the time it is considered whether any particular state should come within the Act, the committee points out, various internal questions such as existing pension and retirement systems and transfers of benefits, would have to be studied.

A letter addressed to Frank Bane, executive director of the Social Security Board following the conference suggested consideration of the following points in the drafting of a possible amendment:

It should be broad in scope and should provide for full coverage of state and local governmental employees in each particular state which elects to come under its provisions.

It should provide for the states' payment into the federal treasury of the amount of money equivalent to the amount that would be obtained through taxation by the federal government for similar employees in private employment.

It should include provision for the minimum time which any state could remain in such arrangement, and for equitable and necessary deductions on an actuarial basis, which would be made from the benefits realized in the event the state withdrew before such minimum time.

The definition should be made as to who constitutes an employee of state and local governments. Many people in local government employ are hired on a fee basis, the Committee explains, and it is essential there be set up a general definition by which the states could determine the minimum group of employees to be affected by the amendment.

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PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE 1937
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois Release No. 2: For Tues., Feb. 2

Old Age Assistance Bills Crowd State Calendars

State legislatures now in session are pouring social welfare bills into the hopper at the rate of dozens a day, most of them dealing with old age assistance. More than 250 proposals dealing with care of the aged have been presented since the 1937 legislative sessions opened, according to a check made by the American Public Welfare Association. This figure does not include all of the 42 states whose legislatures are now meeting.

As in the case of unemployment compensation measures, the new old age assistance proposals indicate a growing liberality, analysis of the bills shows. In several states, proposals have been made to memorialize the U. S. Congress to enlarge provisions of the Social Security Act. Similar bills seeking approval of the Townsend Plan have been introduced in Montana, Oregon and Massachusetts.

Nearly all of the eight states--Arizona, Georgia, Kansas, Nevada, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia--which still lack approval of old age assistance plans for participation in the Federal Social Security Act have before them one or more bills designed for this purpose. Along with other states that have already come under the Act, they are lowering the age limit to, or even below the specified 65-year limit, and enlarging the amount of pensions. In addition, a number of states are amending recently-passed old age assistance acts by writing provisions to exempt homesteads, real property, and a certain amount of income from liens against beneficiaries. Among states considering such proposals are Arkansas, California, Massachusetts, and Michigan. Indiana has one bill allowing a $1000 property exemption and another that would authorize transfer of property by applicants for old age assistance. A Massachusetts proposal would allow beneficiaries to keep their insurance policies.

Financing for the modernized old age assistance program is another problem faced by the state legislatures. A majority of the proposals now under consideration are for special taxes for old age assistance, although finance students in general deplore such earmarking of funds. Governor Martin L. Davey of Ohio and Governor Lewis O. Barrows of Maine have already signed bills that willl tax liquor for the assistance of the aged. Ohio's law utilizes the state monopoly taxes and profits from state-operated liquor stores. Maine's law places a 10 per cent sales tax on liquor for old age pensions, and is effective immediately. Other states considering liquor taxes for old age assistance are Iowa, Vermont, Montana, and Utah.

Additional proposals under consideration include: legalizing and licensing operation of pin ball and other games of skill, and vending machines (Colorado); and state lottery authorization (New Hampshire and Massachusetts.) Arkansas, Idaho, Iowa, Utah, and Texas have sales tax financing proposals before them. The Texas bill exempts the tax on gasoline, beer, liquor, cigarettes and utility services. A bill proposed to the Oklahoma legislature would levy a sliding income tax for old age assistance as well as a corporate income tax, a one per cent occupation tax on lead and zinc industries; a 5 per cent occupation tax on oil; and a severance tax on timber.

Finance experts find that special taxes are inadequate as revenue providers for welfare functions because there usually are periods of "fast and famine" under such a system, so that the particular function of government so financed may suffer at the most inopportune times.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1937
Release No.3: For Wed., Feb. 3

Tax Limits Appraised

Over-all tax limits on real estate, depression-born proposal again engaging the thoughts of many state legislatures this year, are weighed in the balance and found wanting in the pamphlet, "Tax Limits Appraised," published today by Public Administration Service, Chicago. Authors are A.M. Hillhouse and R.B. Welch, research consultants respectively of the Municipal Finance Officers' Association of the United States and Canada and the National Association of Assessing Officers.

Presenting arguments both for and against, the pamphlet is directly addressed to the constitutional over-all tax limit which has been widely discussed. The over-all limit, in its strictest sense, is defined as "a constitutional or statutory provision fixing a maximum property tax rate or rates which may not be exceeded by the combined rates of the state and all its political subdivisions having jurisdiction within a given area."

At present, only nine states have what are generally called over-all tax limits, although the first state to pass such a law, Rhode Island, did so nearly sixty years ago. Five states adopted their limits during the depression years 1929 to 1936. These states are: Indiana, Michigan, New Mexico, Washington and West Virginia. Ohio and Oklahoma tightened their limits during this period, and Nevada transferred an over-all limit from the statute books to the constitution.

The first conclusion reached by the authors of the pamphlet, who base their findings upon experience-stories of eight of the nine tax-limit states, is that an over-all tax rate limit of the type advocated will result in a substantial immediate reduction in real estate taxes, but will not bring about important governmental economies or lasting reductions in total tax burdens. For each of seven states reductions are shown in the years following adoption of the tax limit, the total reductions now standing at over 100 million dollars a year. The loss in property

(MORE)

taxes, the authors add, will eventually be made up by replacement revenues with additional costs incident to their administration. In the states with tax limits a retail sales or gross income tax has usually been adopted as the major replacement revenue. These cost the small home owner and the wage earner more than the savings realized in property taxes, they point out.

Figures quoted from present tax-limit states show that replacement revenues, while they have often equalled or even exceeded the decline in property tax levies attributed solely to over-all tax limits, have been considerably less in amount than the total decline in property tax levies. In any event, the immediate effect of drastic over-all limitation, according to the pamphlet, will be "disruption and substantial curtailment of essential governmental services." Closed schools in Ohio, elimination of street lighting service, fire and police protection in certain West Virginia cities, reduced salaries and discharged employees in Washington cities are among the evidence cited. Cities in Oklahoma, Indiana and New Mexico have reported slight impairment of services, but in the case of the last two states, the authors point out, the tax limits can easily be exceeded.

These are a few of the additional arguments marshalled in this report, against constitutional tax limits:

1. Instead of discouraging borrowing and improving the public credit, as claimed by its advocates, a constitutional over-all limit "seriously injuries municipal credit and effectively destroys a pay-as-you-go policy." Reaction of investors to tax limitation has already closed certain markets to bonds issued under over-all tax limits. Those money markets still available to municipalities in tax-limit states are open only on unfavorable terms, the survey shows.

2. A constitutional over-all limit deprives the fiscal system of the flexibility required for adaptation to changing social and economic conditions. The constitution, the authors believe, is no place for a tax measure, since it restricts the power of the legislature to provide funds for operating governments as self-sustaining units.

3. A uniform, inflexible tax limit fails to allow for differences in community needs and community resources. States chosen at random indicate the existence of wide variations in total tax rates applied to property within various municipalities, and drastic tax limitation makes no provision for such variations.

Alternatives to the proposed over-all tax limit are suggested. One of them is the substitution of statutory over-all limits varying from one municipality to another. Better results would be obtained, however, the authors explain, if cities would follow sounder policies for financing capital improvements, would adhere more strictly to a pay-as-you-go policy in all periods except depressions, and if a general revision of the state tax structure could be brought about.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1 9 3 7
Release No. 4: For Thurs.Feb. 4

Motor vehicles - T [illegible]

Parking Meters Scored "Pro" and "Con" by State Courts

Municipal attempts to remedy traffic congestion in business sections by "automat" parking have scored 50 per cent successful with higher courts in the two test cases thus far tried. The Supreme Court of Alabama ten days ago, in the case of the City of Birmingham v. Hood-McPherson Realty Company, handed down a decision invalidating the parking meter ordinance recently adopted by the city. In December the Florida Supreme Court upheld parking meters in Miami, which had made its installation in February, 1936. Decisions favorable to metered parking have also been handed down by the lower courts of Florida and Oklahoma.

From the two State Supreme Court opinions emerge two main problems, according to the American Municipal Association, outlined in a recently published pamphlet on parking meters. These are the questions: Is the customary five-cent parking fee a legitimate exercise of the police power of municipalities? Do parking meters interfere with "free use of the streets" within the meaning of state laws?

The favoring Florida Court emphasized the conclusion that the Miami parking meter ordinance is a bona fide exercise of municipal police power for the regulation of traffic, and that a license fee can be legally levied for regulatory purposes. The court also concluded that the city of Miami was not making an "inordinate profit" by means of the parking meters. Reverse was the Alabama Supreme Court decision, which held that exacting a parking fee was "an unauthorized exercise of the taxing power," and pointed out that an owner of property abutting parking meter zones has "the right to come and go, and park his vehicle alongside of his property (within reasonable limitations)" without paying a tax to the municipality. With respect to free use of the public property, the plaintiff's counsel quoted the original deed of 1877, conveying the land upon which the parking meters now stand, to the city of Birmingham. This deed expressly stipulated that streets, avenues and alleys as laid out should not be used for any private or individual purposes, without the consent of the land company making the grant.

At least thirty cities have enacted parking meter ordinances, according to the American Municipal Association, whose executive director, Clifford W. Ham, points out that "the devices cannot be regarded as contributing more than indirectly to a solution of the parking problem as such, although they may fulfill a welcome purpose in relieving traffic, contributing to safety and providing revenue for traffic regulation purposes.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
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1 9 3 7
Release No.5: For Fri., Feb. 5

Municipal Reporting Gains in Quantity and Quality

Cities are beginning to see the point of straightforward, clear chronicling of their affairs in the once-a-year report to taxpayers. Clarence E.Ridley, professor of public administration at the University of Chicago, makes this statement after ten years of rating annually the sins of omission and those of commission in municipal reports for the *National Municipal Review*.

Prof. Ridley's rating scale of 100 points was reached within four points of perfection by the 1936 annual reports of Berkeley, Calif., and Cincinnati, O. Bangor, Me., was third, with a score of 95, then Trenton, N. J., with a rating of 93. Charlotte, N. C.; Norfolk, Va., and Two Rivers, Wis., scored 91. Auburn, Me.; Dayton, O.; Louisville, Ky.; and Pasadena, Calif., received ratings of 90. Nine other cities scored between 80 and 89 of the points, which are divided among promptness of publication, certain features of physical make-up, and content. In addition, 43 other cities issued general municipal reports during the year that were "of a high order."

This total of 74 cities issuing reports for 1936 compares with 55 last year and 47 for the year before--"a small number when contrasted with the total number of American cities," Prof. Ridley commented, "but nevertheless a sign of progress toward a wider realization that an informed citizenry is an essential of democratic government."

"The decade has seen remarkable changes in the quality, as well as in the quantity of municipal reports," continued Prof. Ridley. "The auditor's report, with minute detail, and the inventory of property and equipment are fast disappearing. No longer is the hurried and harried citizen expected to wade through a hundred pages of meaningless facts and figures. Instead, he is treated to a brief, attractive, readable, interesting account of the activities of his city's government; brief, because the average length has decreased from 90 to 55 pages; attractive, because in physical make-up and illustrative material the modern report compares favorably with the best periodicals; readable, because the reports are not compilation but narratives, well organized, with tables of contents and organization charts; interesting, because they treat of government in terms of activities as well as of expenditures." A recent development is the growing number of cities that are issuing extremely brief reports, lacing in pictures and charts, but just as effectively informative, he adds.

1936 reports, in general, were late, Prof. Ridley comments, being issued on the average 5.3 months after close of the fiscal year. This is called a deplorable feature, "since the annual report should provide the citizens with news, not with history." Prof. Ridley indicates that he will revise his grading schedule when it comes time to appraise the 1937 municipal reports, changing emphasis from physical appearance to content. Physical make-up, he explains, was a great factor for improvement a decade ago, "when most annual reports were about as attractive as a Model T automobile on Fifth Avenue on Easter morning."

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.6: For Sat., Feb. 6

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Personnel

New Personnel Office for Labor Department Lauded

Appointment of a Director of Personnel in the United States Department of Labor marks that agency as the second "old line" federal department to "recognize the importance of supervising its employees' training, welfare and morale," according to the current News Letter of the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada.

The new personnel office was created with a trained and experienced administrator appointed to the job. He is Robert Smith, formerly personnel technician with the Farm Credit Administration. It will be Director Smith's duty to develop a constructive program that will include among other things, studies in salary standardization, promotion methods, transfers and the establishing of work standards.

The United States Department of Agriculture, the News Letter points out, established a personnel office in 1925 which has been largely responsible for the development of "one of the most progressive 'in-service' training courses in the world -- its Graduate School -- and for the growth of employee activities ranging from credit unions to cooperative housing. At the present time about half the students attending the Department of Agriculture's Graduate School are from other federal agencies. The broad purpose behind this in-service training program is apparent from a recent declaration of the department's Director of Personnel, that 'the ultimate objective of personnel administration is the maximum utilization of our human resources.'"

In appointing the Director of Personnel to the Department of Labor, Secretary Frances Perkins defined his duties among others "to be responsible for the maintenance of morale of employees and the conduct of employee relations, including liaison work with employee organizations and the promotion of employee welfare activities."

The new employees for the Department of Labor will be drawn from U.S. Civil Service Commission registers as before, says the News Letter, but the new personnel officer will be expected to act as a liaison officer between the two organizations in the development of a recruitment and placement program.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1 9 3 7
Release No.1: For Mon.,Feb. 8

C. H.
BRARY
FEB 6 1937

Flood Area Officials Warned Their Task Has Just Started

Warning that public officials in the flood area, exhausted physically and mentally by the gigantic task of saving lives and property, cannot yet relax if their communities are to be liveable, was issued today by Frank W. Herring, executive director of the American Public Works Association. Rehabilitation of waterworks, proper cleaning of streets and sewerage systems, and testing and safeguarding of public structures damaged by rampaging waters must be accomplished at once, he said.

Mr. Herring warned also against too hasty action in all three of these essential tasks, since mistaken methods would result in further crippling of other functions. He cited the system proposed in some localities of cleaning streets by force flushing, a method which, he says, might clog sewers already full of muck and debris.

"The public as a whole," said Mr. Herring, "must be patient and cooperate with their officials with the same splendid spirit as during the disaster.

"The streets of cities in all the flood-stricken districts will be covered with dirt and wreckage. Until they are cleaned it will be quite impossible for any other city facility to be resumed. Fire and police protection will be at a standstill. In brief, all the protective and economic life of the city will be tied into a knot until the streets are cleared.

"In the effort to clean up as quickly as possible it would be tragic if public officials were to ignore the possibility of damaging their drainage structures during the cleaning process. Sewers are loaded with mud and silt, anyway. It is important that a method be used to clean off street debris so that the sewers will not be plugged completely.

"The surfaces of the streets undoubtedly will be badly damaged, and will necessitate extensive repairs, temporary at first, permanent later.

"Waterworks systems have been badly damaged, and it will be essential to get

(MORE)

them back into working order. Waterworks must be delivering their full capacity of potable water before the cities concerned are fit to live in.

"The sheer magnitude of this task in the aggregate is appalling. Many of the smaller communities particularly are likely to find that the job will be beyond the powers of the public works equipment on hand.

"Above all, the season is still early, and although the probabilities are against it, the possibility of another invasion of high water must be considered. Therefore, damaged flood control structures must be rehabilitated as soon as possible.

"Private property also has had its structural integrity impaired. Public safety will require that adequate attention be given to sagging walls, undermined foundations, etc. Culverts, bridges and public structures of all kinds will have to be inspected as to the soundness of their foundations and superstructure.

"The rehabilitation problem will travel down the river and emerge behind the flood. Long before the Mississippi tide has spent its force, the Ohio Valley basin will be in the throes of rehabilitation."

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1937
Release No.2: For Tues.,Feb.9

Personnel [illegible]

Arkansas First State to Adopt Civil Service in '37

Arkansas has achieved the distinction of adopting the first state civil service law in 1937, after a close race with a number of other states considering similar legislation, according to the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada. The Arkansas measure,which provides the tenth state civil service system in the country, was signed by Governor Carl E. Bailey, on February 3rd.

The Civil Service Assembly points out that the legislatures of Michigan, Tennessee and Connecticut appear "virtually certain to adopt merit system laws during their present sessions." Other states where interest in civil service is running high are Minnesota, Indiana, Alabama, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania and Florida. Governors of fifteen states in their annual addresses and legislative messages declared in favor of the merit system.

The new Arkansas law, according to the _Civil Service Assembly News Letter_, "provides for the establishment of a genuine merit system which will be free from the handicaps of veterans' preference and rigid residence restrictions. A comprehensive personnel program will be developed to include a classification and compensation plan, a scientific recruiting system, employee training and other constructive in-service activities, and a removal procedure which will protect competent employees against political favoritism and yet facilitate the separation of unsatisfactory workers."

Maryland was the last state to pass a civil service law, doing so in 1920. California amended an old state civil service law in 1933, and made it a constitutional amendment. New York's civil service law is the oldest of the states; it was passed in 1883 and made a part of the state consitition in 1894. Massachusetts' law was enacted in 1884. Colorado, Illinois, New Jersey, Ohio, and Wisconsin have state civil service provisions. Kansas has such a law, but it has not been in operation since 1919, three years after its adoption. Kentucky moved part way in the direction of a merit system last year when it created a Division of Personnel Efficiency.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1 9 3 7
Release No.3: For Wed., Feb.10

Police-[illegible]
St[illegible]

Police and Sit-Down Strikes

Police chiefs called upon to referee a sit-down strike face one of the hardest assignments of their careers, according to Arnold Miles, police consultant, writing in Public Management, magazine of the International City Managers' Association, which features in its February issue a symposium on strikes.

Although the sit-down, at first glance, appears to reduce greatly the possibilities of violence, since picketing does not figure in the technique and the use of strike-breakers is limited, there are at least three things to make the situation difficult, says Mr. Miles. First: strikers who occupy an employer's property without his consent are regarded as trespassers under the law, and in many states trespassing is not only a civil offense, but a criminal offense as well. Second: if sit-down strikes have not been held to be trespassing in a state, a court injunction may still require that the trespassers be removed from the employer's property. Third: the possibility of property destruction is much more real in a sit-down strike than in any other type of strike.

From the police standpoint, according to Mr. Miles, "it is when force becomes necessary that the sit-down strike differs most from past strikes." If there is doubt that the strikers are actually committing criminal trespass, and if the strikers have attacked neither persons nor property, the police have no grounds upon which to attempt eviction under legal interpretations. If a sit-down strike is clearly established as criminal trespass, or if a court injunction has been issued ordering the strikers to evacuate the plant, the police chief or sheriff must attempt to remove them. Failure to do so may at once subject the police department to charges of favoritism from the employers and probably from the public, and to a citation for contempt of court for not enforcing the injunction. If it is a large body of stay-in strikers that must be evicted, the police chief faces the possibility that the local police force is not large enough to get them out without property damage.

Implications of the sit-down strike have already shown themselves to labor leaders and labor unions, however, says Mr. Miles, to the effect that the device must be used carefully:

"While the legality of the sit-down has not yet been passed upon by any of the appellate courts, generally speaking, it would not be surprising to see it declared illegal. Furthermore, if the sit-down is held to violate legislation governing the free movement of interstate commerce, it would then be in violation of federal law as well as state.... A principal weakness of the sit-down is its utter simplicity. Such a strike can be started at any time by any worker who sits down and stops working, and, if carried out, can completely throttle industries organized on the assembly line principle. For this reason, even if the sit-down were not illegal, it would not be surprising if labor itself permitted its use for collective rather than individual bargaining where a major question is at stake.... While the sit-down strike places labor in a strategic position if it wants to destroy property, labor cannot afford to allow wholesale property destruction."

The outcome police chiefs should hope for, Mr. Miles comments, is a full understanding before the law of labor's rights, privileges and responsibilities, which will be definitely to the advantage of labor, employers and the police in time of strikes.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
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Release No.4: For Thurs.,Feb. 11

Trailers

How Will the "Trailer-home" Be Governed?

Recognizing the importance of the house trailer in American life and citing estimates that by the end of 1937 there may be 1,250,000 persons calling 400,000 trailers "home," four national governmental associations have made a joint study of the governmental problems resulting therefrom. The report, entitled "The House Trailer: Its Effect on State and Local Government," was released today from the Chicago headquarters of the American Municipal Association. Researchers of the American Public Welfare Association, the American Society of Planning Officials, and the National Association of Housing Officials also took part in the survey.

Extent to which the American populace is taking to the road in permanent homes on wheels is indicated by the fact that in the eight months from March 1 to November 1, 1936, the state of Virginia licensed 5,678 house-trailers, more than twelve times as many as were licensed during 1926 and twice as many as in 1935. Crop pickers, waiters and other seasonal employees, and traveling business men, are reported using the trailer as a permanent home in increasing numbers.

Many American cities and towns, as well as the states, have suddenly awakened to the fact that they have a trailer problem, and that the problem has many angles, says the report. "For public officials, trailer problems must be regarded as severely practical considerations which must be solved by tomorrow if possible and not later than next week in any case."

Here are some of the governmental questions emphasized in the report:

The city plan commission wants to know where to locate trailers and how many to provide for, because zoning regulations must be met and ordinances amended in some instances to meet new conditions which trailers have created. The local fire laws, health regulations, police and traffic codes have much to say about trailers and are being studied and changed in many states and their subdivisions. Trailers are not fireproof, and,gathered in numbers on a limited area, are a definite fire menace.

(MORE)

The health department is concerned with groups of people in small living quarters whose methods of waste-disposal can have a detrimental effect on the community. Although the trailerites have not yet created a welfare and public assistance problem, the question of legal responsibility will arise with more and more frequency as the trailer migrants encounter ill-health, financial embarrassment, expensive accidents, repairs and hospitalization. Schools will be called upon to educate trailer children suddenly thrust upon them by parents who have taken up local residence, from choice or from necessity, for financial or health reasons. Existing state housing codes will have to be invoked or amended, and some states will face the need to study housing standards and to provide effective statutes. Trailers present two tax problems: their effect on other taxable property, and their possibilities as a source of tax revenue.

At least 17 states have enacted laws specifically regulating tourist camps. These laws, the report points out, may easily be brought up to date to cover trailers and trailer camps. State planning boards, the report advises, should at once begin to survey the facilities available to trailers in each state. Analysis of 1,000 trailer camps shows that between two-thirds and three-fourths of them are located outside the corporate limits of cities and villages but near their borders. Thus the regulation of most trailer camps is at present primarily a county problem, and state regulations for trailers and trailer camps can be made to apply in county areas. Counties with zoning authority can use it for specifying the land to be used for trailers, the report adds.

New as they are, trailers have already caused municipal officials much concern in certain localities, according to the report. In Miami, Florida, for example, the influx of trailers has become so great and the establishment of camps so general that it has been found necessary to enact a special trailer ordinance. Ordinances have also been passed recently in Oakland, Long Beach, Banning, and San Diego, Calif.; St.Petersburg, Ft.Lauderdale and Clearwater, Fla., and Phoenix, Ariz. Helena, Mont. has established a city-controlled trailer camp.

Use of trailers as houses can be either encouraged or discouraged by municipal officials, the report points out. Establishment of a time limit for trailers in camps or elsewhere within the municipal limits, as has been done in a few cities, and strict enforcement of housing codes are discouragements. There is little doubt expressed, however,that if cities do not allow trailers to be occupied as permanent dwellings, those people desiring to make them so will simply move outside municipal limits into county areas where regulations are less stringent.

Though free to deal drastically with this new form of housing through direct application of existing health and housing standards, municipalities are urged to take advantage of the good points in the trailer movement.

Encouragement of trailers as permanent dwellings by municipalities implies a willingness by officials and the public alike to face squarely the challenge to traditional housing standards. This means a revision of housing codes and their strict enforcement, especially with regard to overcrowding.

"A re-examination of the entire question of adequate housing standards would be the most fortunate result of public desire, be it limited or general, to use trailers as permanent dwellings," the report points out. "The most unfortunate results would be the enactment of statutes and ordinances sanctioning life in trailers under housing conditions which would not be allowed in standard dwellings."

On the matter of trailer taxation, the report says that "although it is too early to suggest what forms it should follow, it is assumed that trailers should be required to provide revenue to meet the additional financial burdens which they bring to states and localities, such as in highways and schools, utilities, fire and police protection."

Collaborating in the preparation of the report were H.G.Ogden and Arnold Miles, American Municipal Association; Paul P. Oppermann, American Society of Planning Officials; Louis E. Hosch, American Public Welfare Association, and Edmond H. Hoben, National Association of Housing Officials.

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Child Labor Amendment Now Approved by 26 States

Ratification of the Federal Child Labor Amendment by two states--Kentucky and Nevada--during the first month of the 1937 legislative calendar brings the number of states approving the measure to within ten of the total required to affix it to the Constitution of the United States, according to a check made by the American Public Welfare Association.

Kentucky's legislature stamped its approval on the amendment the day before its recent special session concluded. Kentucky and Arkansas are two southern states that favor the measure. Nevada, which passed the amendment shortly after opening session, had defeated it in the last legislative session, in 1935.

There are 17 "possibilities" that the ten state sanctions yet lacking may be obtained in 1937. Of the 43 states that hold legislative sessions this year 17 have not yet ratified the amendment. Only three of these are in the South.

Chart of the progress in adoption of the Child Labor Amendment, the third of its kind in the history of federal legislation, is as follows: Adopted 1924: Arkansas; adopted 1925: Arizona, California, Wisconsin; adopted 1927: Montana; adopted 1931: Colorado; adopted 1933: Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Washington, West Virginia; adopted 1935: Idaho, Indiana, Utah, Wyoming; adopted 1937, to February: Kentucky, Nevada. Influence of depression years is noticeable, 18 legislatures voicing their approval during the period 1933-1935.

President Roosevelt, just before taking office for his second term, issued a call to the states that had not ratified the measure, asking them to take action. The proposed amendment, as approved by Congress in 1924, was a joint resolution giving Congress power "to limit, regulate and prohibit the labor of persons under eighteen years of age."

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PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
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Release No.6: For Sat., Feb.13

Proposed Legislation for Improved Law Enforcement

Both state and federal police laws are due for changes and improvements in 1937, if legislation now proposed is passed, according to the Police Chiefs' News Letter, official bulletin of the International Association of Chiefs of Police. U.S. Attorney General Homer S. Cummings in his annual report made last month, says the newsletter, announced that he will send to Congress half a dozen bills designed to facilitate criminal prosecution. One would require a defendant who proposes to rely on an alibi defense to notify the prosecution of such defense before trial; another would permit the prosecutor to comment on a defendant's failure to testify; another would provide that one spouse may be a competent witness against the other spouse in criminal cases. Mr. Cummings also recommended that supervision of the sale and distribution of revolvers and pistols be placed under federal control. This control has been exercised since 1934 in the case of machine guns, sawed-off shot guns, sawed-off rifles and silencers.

Pertaining to federal legislation, a bill has been introduced in both houses of Congress, making it unlawful to pay, or agree to pay, any ransom or reward for the release of kidnaped persons.

State action for uniform crime laws relating to pursuit of criminals across state lines, facilitating extradition of criminals, securing out-of-state witnesses and improving out-of-state parole supervision is expected in a number of states. The governors of Illinois, Maine, Nevada, New Mexico, and Rhode Island recommended passage of one or more of these interstate cooperative laws in their inaugural messages.

For New York, which already has all four of these laws, Governor Herbert H. Lehman has recommended that the legislature authorize a bureau of crime prevention in the executive department. Its function would be to assume leadership in the stimulation, development and coordination of local crime prevention activities. He also recommended setting up of a state department of justice, with broad powers to cooperate with and assist local district attorneys; a system for recruit and in-service police training; and optional consolidation of local police units.

Compulsory fingerprinting of all persons over 18 years of age is contained in a bill introduced in the New York legislature since its session opened.

In Pennsylvania the legislature is considering measures which would provide courses in first aid for police officers and other public employees. Legislation pending in Oklahoma would give the highway patrol full state police powers.

The Iowa Association of Chiefs of Police has requested the state legislature to enact a law requiring that police chiefs be named from the ranks of experienced policemen and placing them under civil service. This Association also asks that a 90-day probationary period be established before any recruit policeman receives permanent civil service status.

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Release No.1: For Mon., Feb.15

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Basin States To Meet On Unified Water Control Plan

As flood panic subsides, along with the angry waters of the mid-continent basins, a nine-state commission of the Ohio Valley plans to meet next Friday and Saturday (Feb. 19-20) in Indianapolis to marshall collective state forces against future flood disasters and to form a sound water policy for the area. This body, the Interstate Commission on the Ohio River Basin, was organized at the recent meeting of the states concerned in Columbus, O.

New York, Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Virginia, Illinois and Tennessee are sending official delegates, one representing each house of their legislatures, and one administrative official chosen by the governors. Most of the states have interstate commissions on co-operation which function with a central secretariat, the Council of State Governments, of which former Governor Paul V. McNutt, of Indiana, is President.

Ebb of the flood leaves not only the physical results of water-swept debris, but also a welter of hasty legislation and emergency appropriations, experts point out. They fear that continuous unrelated action by the several states involved may harm proper solution of the many other water problems of the great Ohio Valley. The basin commission plans at this first meeting to tackle flood control in its relation to these other problems -- water supply and diversion, pollution, drainage, navigation, recreation, reforestation, and soil and wildlife conservation.

Money saving alone, if a workable integrated plan is reached, is expected to run into millions. Scattered state appropriations for emergency relief and rehabilitation indicate the possible extent of subsequent flood control appropriations. For instance, Illinois passed a $3,000,000 measure for quick post-flood action. One bill in Indiana appropriated $250,000. There are Federal authorizations for $320,000,000 for flood control work under regulations providing that much of it will be spent in the Ohio Valley if individual states will compensate private owners for

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inundation by reservoir lakes and for rights of way.

The commission in conference will consider the immediate situation, not from its emergency relief or temporary rehabilitation aspects, but from the angle of long-range legislation and planning.

Tributaries of the Ohio River reach as far east as the Alleghany River in New York State. The river provides the water necessary to the health of millions of people and for the operation of thousands of industrial plants. The basin is divided into sections representing the rivers feeding the Ohio -- the Alleghany, Beaver, Kanawha, Muskingum, Big Sandy, Scioto, Miami, Kentucky, Cumberland, Green and Wabash. These streams,with their manifold navigation and industrial interests, reach deeply into other bordering states, including in the entire basin some of the most influential areas in the national life.

Dozens of studies have been made on flood control and other problems of the Ohio Valley by various governmental agencies. It will be the effort of the commission to synthesize these studies into some long-term program, and effectuate a measure of inter-governmental co-operation, since the question of surface waters has come to be recognized as interstate in character. Multiple-purpose development will be the keynote of the basin commission's conference this week.

A good example of the structure and operation of the Ohio commission is found in the existing Interstate Commission on the Delaware River Basin, which includes commissions from New York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey. The Delaware's problems are those of the other major drainage basins -- the Ohio, Tennessee, Columbia, Colorado and Red River Valleys.

The Delaware watershed covers an area of 12,000 miles, as large as Belgium, and a population of approximately 5,000,000. It rises in New York, forms the boundary between that state and Pennsylvania, then between the states of New Jersey and Delaware. The commission was organized last year, and already has standing committees on planning, engineering, legislation, financing, federal cooperation and public co-operation. Its recent report says that it "has succeeded in bringing together, for the first time, a group of legislators, planners and administrators from four states as well as representatives of the federal government, to solve problems of water resources within the area which can only be met on a broad mutual basis."

A study of the Delaware Basin, authorized by the commission, is being made by consultants of the National Resources Committee loaned for the purpose, and the study is to be released soon for consideration.

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State Government Reorganization Plans

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Projected plans for reorganizing the administrative management of the federal government have their counterparts in half a dozen states where administrative reorganization measures are before the legislatures, according to Robert M. Paige, secretary of the Governmental Research Association. In Tennessee such a bill has just been signed by Governor Gordon Browning; in Connecticut and Texas bills have been introduced, and in Oregon a reorganization report has been submitted to Governor Charles H. Martin. Colorado is reported to be considering general reorganization while Kansas, Georgia, New Mexico and Washington have bills dealing with welfare department reorganization only.

The Tennessee measure, first to be carried through, establishes ten state departments, each headed by a single commission to hold office at the pleasure of the governor. All administrative bureaus, divisions and agencies of the state are placed in some on of these departments. The act provides for the establishment of a merit system to select all state employees, and for a Division of Personnel in the Department of Administration. Other provisions include an executive budget, centralized purchasing, centralized accounting and supervision of local government finance. The Comptroller of the Treasury, an official selected by the state legislature, is to head a Department of Audit, which will conduct a post-audit of all financial records and serve as the staff agency of the legislature in making investigations of state finances.

The Connecticut reorganization plan, worked out by a commission after more than a year's study, proposes several constitutional amendments to make possible some of the changes advised. One of these would give the governor a four-year term instead of the present two-year term. Gubernatorial elections would be held in even-numbered years between presidential elections. Another proposed amendment would make the offices of controller, treasurer, secretary of state and attorney general appointive instead of elective. The reorganization bill, recently introduced in the legislature, would establish a council to study continuously problems of legislation; would

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provide for an executive budget; create a civil service merit system; provide for centralized puchasing; strengthen the governor's power to remove chief administrative officers and make provision for an adequate independent audit of all state accounts at least once a year.

A measure was introduced in the Texas House of Representatives on January 27, proposing an "Administration Code" that would reorganize and simplify the state government. The bill provides for 19 administrative departments, each headed by a commissioner appointed by the governor. Several score of offices and other agencies of the state government would be abolished under the reorganization, and their functions taken over by the 19 departments. The heads of the 19 departments and the governor would form an "executive cabinet," required to meet at least once a month. A unique feature proposed in the bill is the office of "secretary to the executive cabinet," who is to concern himself solely with administrative and operating processes and procedures. The Secretary's primary duty will be to provide each succeeding state administration with his accumulated knowledge and experience of the business management and operating program.

Reorganization proposals for Oregon result from a study ordered by the legislature in 1935, which created an Interim Commission on Governmental and Administrative Reorganization. The report of this commission deals primarily with problems of finance and business regulation, public welfare and conservation of natural resources. The report urges still further research in state administration, and recommends a continuing commission of investigation. Oregon has 81 separate offices, commissions, boards and agencies administering affairs, with several other units operating independently. Under the proposed reorganization, the three separate agencies which now share in the control of state expenditures would be consolidated into one state department of finance, with a director appointed by the governor. Consolidation of the present offices of executive secretary and private secretary to the governor is also advised, with the present budgeting duties of the executive secretary placed in the department of finance. Numerous agencies now concerned with the administration of public welfare activities would be brought into a department of welfare, which would have charge of the administration of all social security measures.

"In general," comments Mr. Paige, "state reorganization plans now pending would simplify administrative machinery and concentrate administrative authority and responsibility in a single officer--the governor. Most of them would create the agencies of supervision which a governor must have if he is to discharge his administrative duties properly. They also provide for auditor-generals and comptroller-generals to check on the executive and the administrative departments through post-audits and investigations.

"The significance of moves to reorganize governmental administrative machinery is made clear by the President's Committee on Administrative Management, which concluded its report with the following words: 'The forward march of American democracy at this point of our history depends more upon effective management than upon any other single factor. The times demand better governmental organization staffed with more competent public servants, more free to do their best, and coordinated by an Executive accountable to the Congress and fully equipped with modern tools of management."

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Govt, Cost of

Municipal Costs Rise as Population Shrinks

City governments are slow to keep up with population changes. As a consequence, according to William F. Ogburn, University of Chicago sociology professor, when the population is on the decrease, services become more expensive to the taxpayer; and when the city is growing, before it is generally recognized, municipal services may become uncomfortably inadequate for the population served.

Prof. Ogburn first noticed disproportionately high per capita costs in shrinking cities when he was examining police figures in a comparative survey of the social characteristics of decreasing and increasing cities. Results of his survey appear in Public Management, official magazine of the International City Managers' Association. He found about 45 per cent more police in the decreasing than in the increasing cities of the group studied, although crime should flourish as much or more, in a rapidly growing city. Moreover, there seemed to be no reason why the traffic regulation should require more officers in one group of cities than the other.

From a budgetary point of view, the cost of police departments in cities with a declining population was about 50 per cent greater than in the rapidly growing cities, although the latter would seem better able to afford a larger police force.

Upon examining figures for other municipal services, Prof. Ogburn found the case repeated: Costs of fire departments were 65 per cent greater per capita in the shrinking communities than in the growing ones; street cleaning departments were nearly twice as costly in the decreasing cities; care of parks and trees cost about 50 per cent more; educational costs were about 20 per cent greater. Even the cost of inspection of buildings, wiring, plumbing and boilers was about 50 per cent higher in the decreasing city than in the growing city, although there would seem to be more inspection needed in the latter. Costs of library service, health conservation, and charities were found likewise to be higher in the decreasing cities. Altogether, the difference totaled as much as 15 per cent.

It is Prof. Ogburn's theory that governments of increasing cities do not anticipate in actual budgeting practice the needs of the larger future populations, and that the governments of decreasing cities do not anticipate in practice the diminished needs of smaller future populations. The shrinking cities, obviously, would not like to admit their decrease. There may be other reasons than mere inertia for governments' not making budgetary adjustments more quickly, he explains.

"They may have obligations to their employees; they may be justified in proceeding slowly until the needs of the population are shown; there may be possibilities of abuse if budgets are constructed on too hypothetical considerations."

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Infrequent Assessments Held Mistaken Economy

Infrequent property assessment is called a mistaken economy for taxpayers by Albert W. Noonan, technical director of the National Association of Assessing Officers, as local governments in many states put assessing corps to work on their biennial, triennial and sexennial reassessments.

Mr. Noonan cites Pennsylvania as a case in point. Pennsylvania's 1936 triennial assessments will provide the base for tax levies during 1937-38-39, he explains, although the valuations written into the 1936 assessment roll were largely influenced by depression factors. If the present trend in material and labor prices continues, cities and counties in the state will find the current cost of operations increasing in like proportion. Property values also will increase. But because it will not be possible to adjust assessed values in accord with such gains until 1940, the result necessarily must be curtailment of governmental services or increased tax rates, since assessed values cannot be raised to the proper level.

Ohio, Mr. Noonan adds, is faced with an even graver problem because reassessment in that state is on a six-year basis. Last year strong effort was made to defer the 1937 sexennial reassessment until 1938, in order to take advantage of expected property value recovery. The legislature declined to act, however, thus forcing the prevailing values to become the base for tax levies during the next six years, while all signs point to substantially increased commodity prices and property values.

Mr. Noonan points out that it has long been generally believed that because of the relative stability in real estate values, annual reassessments were an unnecessary expense and that economy was better served by requiring reassessment of real estate at two, three, four, five, six, and in one case, ten-year intervals. Only 21 states, according to Mr. Noonan, have laws providing for annual reassessment. Nine states make it a biennial affair, and the rest reassess at periods ranging from three to ten years. While in some cases, ample provision is made for annual adjustments, in the majority, the assessment, except for new buildings, must remain fixed until the next reassessment period.

Another unfortunate feature of infrequent assessment, he comments, is that it provides only a very limited opportunity for the employment of competent personnel on a full-time basis, a necessity if good assessments are to be secured.

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1 9 3 7
Release No.5: For Fri., Feb.19

Police "Big Brothers" and Crime Prevention

Juvenile

Police cooperation in the prevention of juvenile delinquency is due to assume national proportions, if present plans of the International Association of Chiefs of Police are followed. The current issue of the Police Chiefs' News Letter contains a letter from Police Chief William J. Quinn, of San Francisco, chairman of the IACP Big Brother League, urging formation of these organizations in police departments of the entire country.

The Big Brother movement started in Chief Quinn's own department three years ago, for the purpose of re-routing boys and young men off the road to crime. Youths are not committeed to corrective institutions from San Francisco without first being turned over to the Big Brother Bureau for possible rehabilitation. The police "big brothers" do the rehabilitation job by winning the friendship and confidence of misfit and underprivileged boys.

Sponsorship of the Big Brother League was voted at the annual conference of the International Association of Chiefs of Police held in Kansas City in September, 1936, when it was recommended by the committee on juvenile delinquency prevention. Since then Cincinnati's police chief organized a league in that city, with more than a hundred members from the department. A similar league was organized within the California State Peace Officers Association in October.

Police interest in reducing juvenile delinquency is also indicated in the Chicago law enforcement department, according to the Police Chiefs' News Letter. A special course on juvenile crime prevention is on the training school curriculum of the city's police service. The course is being undertaken with the cooperation of the Chicago Recreation Commission, the churches and the schools.

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Release No.6: For Sat., Feb.20

Civil Service Assembly Plans Regional Meeting

A three-day laboratory conference that will bring civil service and public personnel problems under the "microscope" will be held at Phoenix, Ariz. Feb. 22-24 under auspices of the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada. The meeting is one of three regional conferences sponsored annually by the Civil Service Assembly, and is the seventh such session for the Westerners. An Eastern Regional Conference will be held in New York City April 15-17 and a Central conference will take place in Chicago later.

Calling together civil service officials and public personnel administrators from eleven western states, and Alaska, Hawaii, the Philippines and British Columbia, the conference schedules most of its sessions as "laboratory meetings," in which specific problems will be discussed from practical experience.

Among subjects on the program are: Recruiting new personnel, service rating of employees, and classification and compensation plans. In addition, recent trends in civil service will be discussed by G. Lyle Belsley, director of the Civil Service Assembly. Samuel C. May, professor of public administration at the University of California, will speak on "Obligations of a Public Personnel Agency," and William Brownrigg, executive officer of the California State Personnel Board, will discuss the development of professional standards for public personnel administrators.

The Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada is concerned not only with assisting commissions in the administration of civil service laws, but with the development and wider application of sound personnel methods in the public service generally, based upon the principles of the merit system. Another of its objectives is to encourage the use of scientific methods of investigation and administration in the public employment field. Members of the Assembly are civil service commissions and other public personnel agencies and their staff members. Associate members are public officials and other persons and organizations interested in improved public personnel administration.

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Civil Service Cracks the Solid South

The merit system has penetrated the hitherto solid non-civil service South. A second victory for better governmental personnel within the first two months of 1937 was marked with recent passage of the Tennessee merit system act unanimously by both legislative houses. Civil service became a law of Arkansas in January. Including these two newcomers, eleven states now have active civil service laws, according to the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada. The other states are California, Colorado, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Ohio and Wisconsin.

With 42 state legislatures still in session, favorable action on other merit system proposals is expected before 1937 legislators leave their desks, according to the Civil Service Assembly. Bills have already been introduced in Connecticut,Georgia, Indiana, Michigan and Minnesota. In Idaho, Maine,and Nebraska bills are being prepared, and in Alabama, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania and Florida active interest is reported. Support and praise for the merit system were expressed by at least fifteen governors in their inaugural addresses.

The new Arkansas law has several "modern attachments" not found in many of the older civil service provisions. Veterans' preference and rigid residence restrictions are ruled out. Another notable feature is the large proportion of positions placed in the classified service. Provisions are made for the development of a comprehensive personnel program to include a classification and compensation plan, a scientific recruiting system, employee training and other constructive in-service activities, and a removal procedure that will protect competent employees against political favoritism yet facilitate the discharge of unsatisfactory workers.

Both the Arkansas and Tennessee acts provide that the service and facilities of the state personnel divisions should be available, upon request, to local

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governmental sub-divisions of the state.

The Tennessee act puts definite teeth into the usual provision for a six-months' probationary period for employees. Most civil service laws make this specifcation but fail to provide a method of checking on the quality of work. According to the Tennessee act, an employee is automatically dismissed at the end of the probationary period unless a written recommendation is made by the department head to the Director of Personnel to the effect that the worker is to be given a regular position in the civil service.

Employees now in the state service in Tennessee are not to be "blanketed in" under the new system, which is another unusual provision. Those holding positions that will come under the classified service will take qualifying tests which, if passed, will give them a regular status. Employees who do not qualify will be replaced by persons selected through open competitive examinations.

Opportunity for transfer of employees from one position to another or to a higher rank is freely given under the act, upon certification of the Director of Personnel. Transfer to a higher position necessitates the taking of qualifying tests. This provision follows the recommendation made for the federal civil service in the Report of the President's Committee on Administrative Management, that the Civil Service Administrator give particular attention to "the facilities for transfer as a means of utilizing more completely the personnel resources of the Government, the development of executives, the promotion system, examinations for higher positions, and cooperation with the personnel agencies of State and local governments."

"Two important and forward looking steps toward better government were unquestionably taken when Tennessee and Arkansas established merit systems," said G. Lyle Belsley, executive director of the Civil Service Assembly. "The widespread and popular interest in civil service proposals which are being simultaneously made in many other states is of equal significance. It promises to grow to a point where the extension of civil service 'upward, outward, and downward' throughout the entire governmental system will become a reality."

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Release No.2: For Tues., Feb. 23

Interstate Cooperation Movement Spreads

The rapidly-growing movement for interstate cooperation becomes national in scope as reports of formation of new interstate commissions on cooperation reach the Council of State Governments headquarters in Chicago. Ohio and Indiana, the last to report, say that their commission bills have passed in both houses of the legislatures and await only the signatures of Governors Martin L. Davey and M. C. Townsend. Such measures have passed one house in West Virginia and New Mexico and await action in the other houses.

Measures for commissions on interstate cooperation have been introduced in Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Maryland, Montana, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Texas and Washington.

Forty-two state legislatures are still in session and action on interstate cooperation bills is expected in many of them before they recess. Definite action is foreseen in Minnesota, Massachusetts, Missouri, Nebraska, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Tennessee and Wisconsin.

These commissions function under their central secretariat, the Council of State Governments, of which Henry W. Toll is executive director. Two years ago, commissions existed only in New Jersey and Colorado, 2,000 miles apart. Today seventeen states have commissions working with the Council. There are also two large regional commissions including a total of eleven states, the Interstate Commission on the Delaware River Basin comprising four, and that on the Ohio River Basin nine, with New York and Pennsylvania members of both. The regional commissions are made up of representatives of the interstate commissions on cooperation of each state.

The Ohio Basin group, which met last week-end in Indianapolis, furnishes an example of the significance of one function performed by interstate commissions in the states' efforts to solve their mutual problems.

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The Interstate Commission on the Ohio River Basin is composed of twenty-seven representatives from the nine states of the basin-- New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, West Virginia, Virginia, Indiana, Kentucky, Tennessee and Illinois. One commissioner is chosen by each house of the legislatures, and one administrative official is named by each Governor. It was organized not to tackle emergency flood relief nor temporary rehabilition, but to effect a long-range legislative and planning program of flood prevention.

Most of the states concerned have the commissions on interstate cooperation necessary to implement such a program. The Ohio Basin Commission is similar in structure to the year-old Interstate Commission on the Delaware River Basin which includes Delaware, New York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey. This commission has considered not only flood control problems in the area, but also related questions such as water supply, pollution, drainage, navigation, soil and wildlife conservation, recreation and reforestation.

New York's Joint Legislative Committee on Interstate Cooperation furnishes perhaps the best example of the operation of these commissions. The report of the New York body at the Third General Assembly of the Council of State Governments last month in Washington gives the following list of subjects handled by the commission's sub-committees: Crime; Delaware River Basin and water resources; highway safety and motor vehicle regulation; parks; social security; conservation; transient relief and settlement laws; milk control and agriculture; labor compacts; tax compacts; liquor control; banking; real estate reorganization and securities, and insurance.

All four measures recommended by the Interstate Commission on Crime have been passed in the New York Legislature. New Jersey, Connecticut and New York have formed a compact to deal with pollution of waters in and about New York Harbor; steps looking to highway safety have been recommended to many states in the area as the result of regional highway conferences under auspices of the New York Joint Legislative Committee on Interstate Cooperation, and several uniform acts have been presented in an effort to solve problems in the fields of liquor control, insurance and banking.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 E. 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1937
Release No. 3: For Wed., Feb.24

National School Proposed for Municipal Finance Officers

Proposal for a national school for municipal finance officers and their staffs, to be held once a year, was approved by the executive board of the Municipal Finance Officers' Association of the United States and Canada at its recent meeting in Chicago. A committee of the Association has been appointed to start the school in the spring of 1938.

The plan for a national school, according to D. P. Turnbull, city auditor of Kalamazoo, Mich., president of the Municipal Finance Officers' Association, grew out of experience with the three-day training courses sponsored by a number of state leagues of municipalities and other agencies in recent years.

A two or three-week session is suggested by the board for the Municipal Finance Officers' national training school, so that problems facing finance officers of large and small cities alike may be explored more thoroughly. Instructors would be selected from the best available specialists in the United States and Canada. Classes would be held five or six hours each day, and the curriculum would be devoted to the more important fundamental subjects confronting the finance officer, such as accounting, debt administration, taxation, economics, statistics and office organization.

In recent years the work of the finance officer has become much more complicated, President Turnbull points out, "due to the necessity of his handling debt problems and devising accounting systems to meet demands imposed by the need of good local administration and by the requirements of state and federal agencies. Too little importance has been attached to the necessity of studying methods of organizing an office to carry out the job properly, and to presenting statistics to the public on financial affairs in such a manner that they are not misleading. Economics must become a part of the finance officer's knowledge today, also, since he must handle the intricate problems of debt administration and taxation."

The school is designed as another step in the program of the association in raising the position of finance officer to a high professional plane.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1937
Release No.4: For Thurs., Feb. 25

Correct Cost Comparisons Found Vital to Housing Programs

The danger of loose cost comparisons in the current push for housing production is emphasized by Coleman Woodbury, executive director of the National Association of Housing Officials, in a bulletin to members of the organization. If sound conclusions are reached in any practical low-rent housing program, a clear understanding is necessary of what is to be included in the various cost estimates, he finds.

Quoting definite production costs is only one item in a true comparison, according to Mr. Woodbury. "Cost to users" is just as important. Under the latter he lists six items for which users normally make direct or indirect payments:

1. Shelter. This involves consideration of the annual return on the total capital cost, including mortgage loans and equity. Complete amortization of indebtedness in a reasonable time is a second factor.

2. Land. In making comparisons it should be ascertained what the quoted land price includes--costs of pavement, curbing, sidewalk, water, sewer and other street utilities. A misleading practice is to quote original costs without allowing for land and the ordinary utilities.

3. Utilities and other equipment. Wide variations exist in the equipment of dwellings and the manner of paying for them. The monthly costs of heat, light, electric power, gas, hot and cold water, are usually a sizeable proportion of the total monthly housing costs. In owner-occupied dwellings, the depreciation costs of household labor-saving equipment must not be overlooked. In large-scale housing projects, quantity purchasing of equipment may afford both an initial saving and an economy in subsequent maintenance.

4. Accessibility. Transportation expenses for those who inhabit a residential district removed from working centers can easily become a considerable part of the monthly housing costs of middle-class wage earners. Excessively long daily trips, particularly by the chief wage earner, also cut down time for gardening or additional part-time employment often planned for a low-rent housing project.

5. Neighborhood qualities--air, light, and local recreational facilities--are items that cannot be disregarded, especially when their absence from the neighborhood necessitates additional expenditures for travel or private entertainment.

6. Overhead costs of urban living. These costs are reflected in taxes, in the loss of time and increased expense of transporting goods and people about the city area, in assessments for over-extended street and utility systems, and prevalence of physical and social disease.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE 1 9 3 7
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois Release No.5: For Fri., Feb. 26

State Study Boards Urge Assessing on County Basis

Improved tax assessment by putting the assessment function on a county, instead of a township, basis is promised in several states in the near future, if recommendations made by special study commissions to the legislatures are carried out, according to Albert W. Noonan, technical director of the National Association of Assessing Officers.

In his annual resumé of changes in assessment procedure Mr. Noonan reports that, although the number of states that assess on the county plan still remains at 24, there is definite interest in changing over to the more extensive unit.

Recommendations of the Minnesota and North Dakota study commissions to their 1937 legislatures would replace, in the two states, a total of 4600 assessors with 138, if township assessing offices were abolished. The New York Commission for the Revision of the Tax Laws recommended a like change for that state in 1937, advising creation of county boards of review and the elimination of town and village assessors.

Objections to the extremely localized assessor system, according to Mr. Noonan, center around the general recognition that it produces great and sometimes flagrant inequalities of assessment, both among individuals within a district and also among districts. Although most assessors are conscientious, their brief period in office and their lack of experience and training are likely to cause haphazard appraisals. Inefficient assessment of property, in turn, says Mr. Noonan, results in lessened support and lack of confidence in the property tax.

Habit, prejudice and established political tie-ups of local officials are the chief reasons why no more than half the states have changed the plan of property assessment that was found more suitable in the early days than it is now, Mr. Noonan says. He points out that most of the states still using the township basis of assessment are in New England and the East. In the South and West, the county plan is the rule.

Some states which have not gone over to the county plan have introduced district tax supervisors with success. Wisconsin is one of these. A similar step was taken in 1936 by the County of Monroe, N.Y., where, with adoption of the manager plan of government, the county manager as director of finance was given supervisory jurisdiction over town assessors. Incorporated cities within the county, however, are not included.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.6: For Sat., Feb.27

Better Candidates for Civil Service Sought

Attracting competent candidates into government work should be as important a concern of civil service commissioners and personnel directors as picking the best man for the job by the actual civil service tests, according to the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada. For this reason the Assembly has issued a pamphlet which describes the method devised by the California State Personnel Board to call in competent candidates for employment in state departments.

About three years ago it occurred to personnel technicians William Brownrigg and Louis J. Kroeger that advertising civil service jobs by placards in post offices, public libraries and other public places reached chiefly loungers and other unqualified persons. Little was done to attract and encourage better qualified candidates who probably already had jobs, to compete in civil service examinations. The remedy for the situation, they decided, was a positive program to interest citizens of the state and advise them directly when civil service examinations were due.

Chief tool, they found, was a good mailing list, which, through a punch-card system of selection, would automatically notify possible candidates well in advance of an examination for which they would qualify. Starting the system in 1934, just after a new civil service constitutional amendment went into effect, and when the public was acutely conscious of government employment, the Board made up a qualification list of citizens who signified an interest in government work. The qualification cards, which contained information in terms of education, experience and interests, were scanned by trained personnel technicians, who coded them for notification in all possible fields of talents. Now, when an examination for a particular job is scheduled, the cards are sorted for potential candidates, who receive postcard notices. Within the month those who have received notices must write in for an application if they wish to take the test. The end result is a selected group from which the best qualified can be chosen by civil service test.

California citizens are satisfied with the results of the system, according to report. Announcements of examinations are said to reach not only those on the regular list, but their friends and acquaintances interested in state employment, thus enlarging the number of candidates. The list of prospective candidates for jobs now runs into the thousands. The accessible file of detailed information has saved the state personnel department time in several instances when temporary positions were to be filled.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1937
Release No.1: For Mon., Mar. 1

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27 States Still Lack Laws For Housing Program

Introduction of the "billion dollar" Wagner-Steagall bill in both houses of Congress finds less than half the states with the necessary enabling legislation to conduct the housing programs which would face them. The bill, which involves extensive four-year, low-rent housing and slum clearance operations, provides that the direction, planning and management in connection with the housing projects would be vested in local authorities.

Activity in state legislation for low-cost housing therefore, should be on the increase this week. Twenty-one states stand ready to enter fully into the decentralized housing program if the Wagner-Steagall housing bill is passed. To date, according to the National Association of Housing Officials, 19 states have laws enabling the establishment of the local housing authorities necessary to receive federal housing loans and grants, and to direct, plan and manage housing projects. Maryland and New Jersey have state-wide authorities that serve the same purpose.

Enabling legislation has been introduced in at least 14 of the 24 states now in session that lack authority laws, but in no case, up to last week-end, had bills progressed so far as the governor's signature. The states where such bills are under consideration are: Arkansas, California, Georgia, Indiana, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, Utah and Wyoming. The following states, whose legislatures are still convened, are without housing authority enabling laws and have not yet introduced such legislation: Arizona, Iowa, Maine, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Vermont and Washington. Florida, also lacking this law, has a legislative session scheduled in April, and the other two states without provision--Mississippi and Virginia--must call special sessions if they wish to act this year.

Under terms of the housing program authorized in the Wagner-Steagall bill,

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$12,500,000 will be given in annual grants to projects developed by public housing agencies. In addition, limited-profit corporations for housing will be able to contract for $25,000,000 in loans each year of the four-year period. The loans involved in the entire program are to be financed by a federal bond issue:$200,000,000 in the fiscal year 1938; $250,000,000 in each of the next two fiscal years, and $300,000, 600 in the fiscal year 1941.

At present, under the Housing Division of the Public Works Administration, 51 public low-cost housing projects are under construction; and several of them are already tenanted. Provision is made in the Wagner-Steagall bill to sell or lease these housing projects to local authorities or to lease to non-profit housing agencies.

Authors of the bill estimated that $500,000,000 of local funds added to the proposed $1,000,000,000 Federal bonds, would provide 375,000 family dwelling units, at an average cost of $4,000.

Cities interested in low-cost housing programs have another reason for encouragement, according to Coleman Woodbury, executive director of the National Association of Housing Officials. Immediately prior to the introduction of the federal bill the Court of Appeals, highest court of Kentucky, handed down a decision affirming the validity of the 1934 legislative act providing for creation of municipal housing commissions. The test case was brought originally against the Louisville Municipal Housing Commission, legality of which was affirmed by a circuit court. The recent appellate court decision covered the important points of use of condemnation proceedings to secure sites for housing, and the general concept of housing as a matter of public concern, Mr. Woodbury points out. It buttresses the similar decision handed down last year in the state of New York.

Kentucky's 1934 housing act, enabling only cities of the first and second class to create local authorities, was amended late in 1936 by the legislature's special session to include third, fourth and fifth-class cities. The revision is typical of the broadened legislation now being proposed either as amendments or new laws in other states, says Mr. Woodbury. Cities in the lesser as well as the larger population groups are being provided for.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1 9 3 7
Release No.2: For Tues., Mar. 2

Industrial relations | Strikes

States and Cities Tackle Problem of Industrial Unrest

From Groton, Conn. to Santa Monica, Calif., 21 major strikes are in progress. The wave of labor disputes breaking across the country, involving an estimated 45,000 workers in more than 40 industrial and business concerns, has brought to the fore the question "What should be the role of government in labor disputes?", according to Robert M. Paige, secretary of the Governmental Research Association.

In the effort to cope with the strike dilemma, agencies of mediation are being set up at all three levels of government, Mr. Paige points out. The federal government has established several bodies to deal with labor relations, including the conciliation division of the Department of Labor and the National Labor Relations Board. Many state governments and a few city governments are at present considering the establishment of conciliation agencies and the clarification of the law relating to labor disputes.

Provisions of labor relations measures in Indiana, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, New York and Ohio are of general interest. The Indiana measure, sponsored jointly by the Indiana Federation of Labor and the state administration, provides machinery for compulsory mediation of labor disputes. It has passed the House and Senate. In New Jersey's legislature a bill has been introduced which would establish a labor relations commission in the State Department of Labor. This commission would have the power to decide, after investigation, which labor group, if there were more than one, should be recognized in collective bargaining with an employer.

A state labor relations board to "balance bargaining power" between employer and worker has been introduced into the Pennsylvania legislature, backed by the State Federation of Labor. The measure, which would establish a body similar to the National Labor Relations Board, would protect the right of employes to organize and bargain collectively and prohibit "unfair labor practices."

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A bill in the New York legislature would establish a three-man state labor relations commission in the State Department of Labor, one member to represent employers, one, employes and a third, the general public. Its function would be not to mediate in labor disputes but to anticipate and so far as possible prevent strikes by promoting collective bargaining between employers and representatives of employes. Ohio's legislature is considering an anti-injunction bill that would limit the power of courts to issue temporary or permanent restraining orders in labor disputes. Maryland, Massachusetts, New York and North Dakota enacted similar legislation in 1935.

Toledo, O. and Philadelphia are two cities that have set up labor relations bodies. Cincinnati is considering similar action. Toledo's Industrial Peace Board, now nearly two years old, has handled about 80 labor disputes, and, according to its director, Edmund Ruffin, on more than 70 occasions it was able to bring about mutually acceptable settlements before work was stopped. This board is composed of five labor members appointed by the Toledo Central Labor Union; five employers selected by the Chamber of Commerce, and eight public members. Board members serve without pay, but the director has a full-time position. His salary is paid by the city of Toledo. The board has emphasized that its services are always conciliatory, and that the right to strike is not impaired at any time by co-operation with it.

Philadelphia has a Conciliation and Arbitration Board of 15 members which has been credited with settling and averting strikes affecting more than 100,000 workers since its establishment about a year ago. The board is composed of an equal number of representatives of labor and industry and is headed by an impartial chairman, a local judge. Appointments to the board are made by the mayor. An assistant city solicitor in charge of labor relations serves this board. Each labor appointee is associated with a different trade union and the five employers are affiliated with as many industries. When a strike is called or threatened the board selects two of its members, one representing labor and the other employers, to investigate and hear both sides. If this panel of two cannot secure a settlement, facts and conclusions are submitted to the entire board. As a last resort representatives of the board, the employe and the employer are called into conference with the mayor.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.3: For Wed., Mar. 3

Public Health

Local Governments Urged to Expand Health Programs

State leagues of municipalities today were urged by their national federation, the American Municipal Association, with headquarters in Chicago, to recanvass the public health needs of their local governments before the annual conferences of state and territorial health officers meet within a few weeks. A memorandum to the state leagues, which represent about 7,000 cities in 40 states, pointed out that under Title VI of the Social Security Act an appropriation of $8,000,000 will again be available for grants-in-aid for state and city health activities in the fiscal year 1938.

To become eligible for a share in the appropriation, which is allocated on the basis of population, special health problems, and financial needs, each state must present a plan annually for sanction by the United States Public Health Service, and the United States Surgeon General must approve the state budget. Allotments are made on the basis of matching one-half with existing state or local appropriations, one-half with new appropriations made since January 1, 1935. In 1936, all 48 states, as well as the District of Columbia, Alaska and Hawaii, received grants. Amounts ranged, in the states, from $29,312.98 in Nevada to $705,566.86 in New York.

To help their cities and states benefit from this program, the league secretaries are advised to confer with their state directors of public health concerning present state plans for services to cities by the state department; how the state municipal league could cooperate with the state department of public health for more effective action; what special efforts might be made by the league toward encouraging training of those engaged in public health activities, and what alterations might be made in plans of the state department of public health for the fiscal year ending June 1938, to benefit city health departments. They are urged

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especially to give thought to the 1937 appropriation, also $8,000,000 since it contains an earmarked fund of over a million dollars for training personnel. It is believed that this amount may be reduced after the first few years of the program's operation. It is emphasized that the states need not match federal grants for training purposes.

Grants to states for public health work have been budgeted for four major purposes:

1. To strengthen the administrative divisions of the state health department, including the establishment and development of state health laboratories, divisions of vital statistics, public health nursing, etc.

2. To undertake activities to solve special health problems--communicable diseases, venereal disease control, industrial hygiene, tuberculosis, cancer control, etc.

3. To assist local health services, including the development and maintenance of adequate full-time city, county or district health services.

4. To assist in the training of state and loca public health personnel.

Actually, $8,881,859 is available from the federal government to be expended for the states in 1937, the $881,859 being a carry-over from the appropriation for the five months of the fiscal year 1936. State and local appropriations amounted to $26,422,977.95, of which more than $3,500,000 was "new money" added for public health since the Social Security Act became effective. The $8,000,000 annual appropriation is estimated by public health authorities as one-tenth of the total amount being expended by all agencies for public health work in the United States.

As an example of additional services made possible by the expanded public health program, New York State has provided full-time, trained, district health officers, nurses and other personnel throughout its counties, where only a skeleton organization had existed before. A state-wide pneumonia campaign has been set up. Pennsylvania has added considerably to its facilities for tuberculosis control and has organized a new division of industrial hygiene in collaboration with the state department of labor. Indiana has established a division for the promotion and supervision of local health services, has added facilities for venereal disease control, and has contributed $71,000 annually to local health services.

"Aid to states and cities in their public health programs made possible by the grants under the Social Security Act should result in great improvements," comments Clifford W. Ham, executive director of the American Municipal Association. "In many parts of the country it has been realized that programs were woefully inadequate, but little could be done about it for lack of sufficient funds. Especially was this obvious in the depression, when public health services were in some cases all but cut out of the budget. Opportunity is now given to revive and strengthen the programs to a much higher degree of efficiency."

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No. 4: For Thurs. Mar. 4

States Draft Program To Develop Ohio Basin

The manifold problems of the Ohio Valley, thrown into sharp national focus by recent flood disasters, will be brought this week upon the floors of legislatures in the basin capitols by members of the newly-formed Interstate Commission on the Ohio River Basin. A committee appointed at the commission's recent organization conference in Indianapolis, meanwhile is planning to call soon upon President Roosevelt to discuss flood prevention and related problems.

The commission grew out of the recent nine-state flood control conference in Columbus, O. It is organized for joint action among interstate commissions on cooperation, one for each state concerned. Its central secretariat is the Council of State Governments, executive director of which is Henry W. Toll, of Chicago.

The new commission has passed resolutions recommending that the respective states immediately compile studies and plans for their needs in development of the Ohio basin; requesting that the National Resources Board assign planning consultants to work jointly with the commission and with the Ohio Valley Regional Planning Commission, and that the nine states appropriate a total of $5,000 to establish a regional secretariat at Cincinnati.

The President will be asked to give impetus to the program urged by his National Resources Committee for integrated federal-state action on water planning and land planning for the Ohio valley. The committee which will wait upon him has the following membership:

Roy E. Furman, Speaker of the House, Pennsylvania; Virgil M. Simmons, Chairman of the Conservation Committee, Indiana; State Senator Emerson Campbell, of Ohio; Assemblyman Harold C. Ostertag, Chairman, New York Joint Legislative Committee on Interstate Cooperation; John J. D. Preston, Chairman, Public Service Commission,

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West Virginia; J. W. Cammack, jr., Chairman, Commission on Interstate Cooperation, Kentucky; State Representative R. G. Kinkle, of Tennessee; Attorney General A. P. Staples, of Virginia, and State Senator James O. Monroe, of Illinois.

Congress has approved plans of U. S. Army engineers for construction of fourteen dams and reservoirs on the Ohio's tributaries. Their estimated cost is $85,000,000. The interstate commission, as the first step in what would be a long-term, detailed study of flood control, is instructed to ask Mr. Roosevelt to support speedy appropriations to cover the federal part of the Ohio valley program. Elimination of stream pollution, formation of recreational areas in the nine participating states, and checking of soil erosion also are included in the study.

The National Water Resources Committee in its recent report to the President agreed that "many of the major problems of surface waters are interstate and not intrastate in character," and that "no general water plan could be put into action successfully that did not represent close cooperation between the Federal government and appropriate state agencies." The committee divided the drainage basins of the nation into the following classifications: New England, North Atlantic, Middle Atlantic, Southeast, Tennessee Valley, Ohio Basin, Lower Mississippi, Western Gulf, Southwest Mississippi Basins, Upper Mississippi, Great Lakes, Missouri Basin, Colorado Basin, The Great Basin, California, Upper Rio Grande and the Pacific Northwest.

Some of the needs of these areas are diametrically opposed-- such as the necessity for irrigation in part of the Missouri Basin and for harnessing flood waters in the Ohio Valley-- but most of the other problems are similar in nature. One-seventh of the nation's population lives in the Ohio Basin, and the river itself acts for them as a sewer, a source of water supply, an outlet for floods and a highway. Floods in March, 1936, and the recent unprecedented inundations have brought an insistent demand from many sources for remedial measures.

Engineers believe that flood-control reservoirs, placed on the Ohio's tributaries, would be the most practical remedy. The Corps of Engineers' program calls for 89 such reservoirs, about half of which are considered economically justified at this time. Congress authorized fourteen in the Flood Control Act of 1936.

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PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE 1937
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois Release No.5: For Fri., March 5

States Acting To Aid Blind

Seeking to clear up difficulties that bar the way to complete participation in the Social Security Act, many of the 42 state legislatures in session face the necessity for new or revised provisions for the needy blind. According to the American Public Welfare Association, suitable plans for this type of social aid have been slowest in the making by the states.

A digest of current social legislation prepared by the association indicates that three states--Alabama, New York and Tennessee -- which had not taken advantage of grants-in-aid for their blind have recently enacted laws for blind assistance designed to fit requirements of the Social Security Act. A similar act has passed both houses of the Georgia legislature, and at least a dozen of the 18 states still lacking approved plans are considering bills. With the exception of Kentucky, Virginia and Mississippi, all of the states without approved plans for blind assistance, are in regular session this year. The Bureau of Research and Statistics of the Social Security Board reports that up to January 15, $4,290,720.58 was paid out of the federal treasury as grants to the states for aid to the blind. States which did not share in the grants because their plans failed to meet requirements include Alabama, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, New York, North Carolina, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia. North Carolina and Mississippi had received some money during the year, but their plans were later disapproved, Connecticut's plan was voluntarily withdrawn once, but was reapproved. Louisiana's plan was sanctioned late in the year.

Before the Social Security Act was approved, with its specification that aid to the blind was to be on the basis of need, 33 states had made some arrangements for blind assistance. Most of these laws gave a flat-rate pension to all blind persons applying, regardless of their need. The laws had been enacted over a period of 78 years. Indiana passed the first law in 1857. Ohio's statute came 41 years later. Illinois, Massachusetts and Wisconsin acted during the period 1903-1907. Within the next two decades 17 states provided for blind assistance, and from 1930 to 1937 eleven other states put such laws on the statute books. A number of these, however, failed to meet requirements of the Social Security Board. Too-long residence requirements and lack of limitation on old age assistance were the common faults. To be sanctioned by the Social Security Board, state plans must:

(1) Be state-wide and mandatory; (2) provide for financial participation by the state; (3) either provide for the establishment or designation of a single state agency to administer the plan, or provide a single agency to supervise its administration; (4) provide for granting to any individual whose claim for aid is denied, an opportunity for a fair hearing before such state agency; (5) provide such methods of administration as meet with the Board's approval; (6) provide for proper reports; and (7) provide that no aid will be furnished any individual under the plan with respect to any period during which he is receiving old-age assistance. A residence clause which requires more than the five years during the nine years immediately preceding application for aid, or a citizenship requirement excluding any citizen of the United States also automatically rejects a blind assistance plan.

Alabama's law is typical of the new legislation for aid to the blind. It provides that assistance be granted not to exceed $30 per month to any blind person "who has not sufficient income to provide subsistence compatible with decency and health; is sixteen years of age or over; has resided in the State for five years of the last nine years, the last year continuous; or has lost eye-sight while a resident of the State; or is not an inmate of a public or private institution." Tennessee's new law duplicates these conditions.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.6: For Sat., Mar. 6

Central Western Finance Officers to Meet

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A working conference of the municipal finance officers of eleven states-- Arkansas, Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Minnesota, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Wyoming, North Dakota and South Dakota-- will take place at Omaha, Neb., on March 15-16, according to Carl H. Chatters, Executive Director of the Municipal Finance Officers' Association. Finance and accounting officers of every city, county, village and township in these areas are being invited, whether their offices are appointive or elective.

The City of Omaha and the League of Nebraska Municipalities are joining with the association in sponsoring the conference. Governor Robert L. Cochran, of Nebraska, will speak at the banquet on the second day of the sessions.

"The sole purpose of the meeting," said Mr. Chatters, "is to bring public officials together to discuss their problems of accounting and finance in a practical way."

Included on the program will be the following topics and speakers: "Principles Underlying Adequate Accounting and Financial Procedures of Local Government," Lloyd Morey, Comptroller, the University of Illinois; "How Topeka Controls Expenditures," R. F. Agard, City Auditor, Topeka, Kans.; "Tax Limits and Exemptions at Work," Earl Logan, Commissioner of Finance, Tulsa, Okla.; "Pensions and Civil Service," G. Lyle Belsley, Executive Director, Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada; "Accounting Fundamentals For Smaller Cities, Villages and Counties," E. H. Kooser, Iowa State Municipal Examiner; "Organizing the Office For Effective Work," J. W. Prather, City Auditor, Ames, Ia.; "Purchasing," William H. McNichols, Auditor of the City and County of Denver, Colo.; "Accounting and Financial Reporting For Larger Cities and Counties," Fred Wilson, Chief Accountant of St. Paul, Minn.; "The Public Official's Part in Community Life," D. P. Turnbull, City Auditor, Kalamazoo, Mich.; "Adequate Revenues-- How Can Local Governments Expect to Get Them?", S. E. Leland, Chairman, Illinois State Tax Commission and Professor of Public Finance, University of Chicago; "Planning A Bond and Debt Policy," Arthur C. Meyers, Budget Director, St. Louis, Mo.

The local committee of the conference is composed of: C. E. Beals, Executive Secretary, Nebraska League of Municipalities; Theodore H. Berg, City Auditor, Lincoln, Neb.; Harry Knudsen, Commissioner of Finance, Omaha, Neb., and Charles Stenicka, City Comptroller, Omaha.

At the first morning's open session, representatives of localities from each of the eleven states will discuss problems confronting various local governments.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.1: For Mon., Mar. 8

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States Consider Revision of Their High Court Laws

Ripples caused by the rock of judicial reform thrown into the legislative pool at Washington are awash in some of the state capitals. Reports from Wisconsin indicate that a move is afoot for revision of state courts similar in some of its aspects to the Supreme Court reorganization sponsored by the national government.

While the national debate over the judicial reorganization plan still rages hotly, two surprisingly drastic measures have been presented in such widely separated states as Pennsylvania and Washington. Both would necessitate constitutional amendment. Pennsylvania's measure would provide that no state court shall have power to declare invalid any law adopted by the General Assembly. It was referred to the Committee on Constitutional Amendments. The bill introduced in Washington would provide that no statute enacted by legislation, or by initiative, shall be held invalid except by concurrence of two-thirds of the judges.

Whether or not inspired by federal example, other states such as Minnesota are considering legislation designed to provide retirement compensation for aging members of their judiciary, a study by the Council of State Governments shows. State provisions, however, are less generous than the Supreme Court Retirement bill recently passed in the United States Senate. Under this measure, known as the Sumners-McCarran bill, justices may retire on full pay at 70, after ten years' service on the bench.

Wisconsin's bill, sponsored by the state administration, specifies that any state supreme court judge who has served ten years and any circuit judge who has served fifteen years, may retire at sixty-five on half pay.

An interesting provision of the Wisconsin measure creates the office of "retired judge," by which all jurists who choose to retire "shall have the powers of a court commissioner, and shall perform such judicial or other public duties and

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functions as may be assigned to them from time to time by the supreme court."

Acts just introduced into Minnesota's legislature would repeal the laws covering compensation for aged and retired judges of the Supreme and district courts in certain cases, and would provide optional retirement at 70, on half pay. An act proposed in Delaware provides a life pension of $150 a month to all former members of the state judiciary more than 80 years of age who have served twelve years in the Supreme Court.

A review of legislation in force shows that New York provides constitutionally that its supreme court justices be elected for fourteen-year terms, and fixes the compulsory retirement age at 70. Another state which provides optional retirement is Arkansas, at age 70, after service of ten years. In New Hampshire, retirement is obligatory at 70; in Massachusetts, a state law says that justices "may be pensioned" at 70 on three-fourths pay.

In all states providing pensions or retirement, compulsory or optional, 70 is the usual age specification.

Most states in the union not only limit the size of their courts, but also fix the terms of the judges, who are chosen by the electorate. Examples of these states and the terms set include: Pennsylvania, twenty-one years; Maine, seven appointed by governor; West Virginia, twelve; Connecticut, eight; Iowa, elected every two years for six-year terms; Missouri, ten years; Nebraska, seven; Minnesota, six; Indiana, six; Illinois, nine; Kansas, six; Wisconsin, seven; North Dakota, six; South Dakota, six; Colorado, ten; Wyoming, eight; Montana, six; Nevada, six; California, twelve; New Mexico, eight; Oregon, six; Arkansas, eight; Florida, six; Georgia, six; Louisiana, twelve; Mississippi, eight; North Carolina, eight; South Carolina, ten; Virginia, twelve; Tennessee, eight; Texas, six and Kentucky, eight.

Vacancies in those states also are filled by vote of the people, rather than lying within the appointive power of the governor or legislature. In only three of the states which do not limit the size of their high courts-- Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Vermont-- are vacancies not filled by election.

One state, Louisiana, has a retirement provision equally as generous as the proposed federal measure. From Louisiana's five-judge court, a member may retire at seventy-five on full pay, if he has served the state for fifteen successive years.

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News Bulletin of
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1937
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Municipal Pay Checks Getting Back to Normal

Salaries for municipal employees are on the way to a complete "comeback." In half a dozen cities recently, a survey by the Municipal Finance Officers' Association shows, city workers have received monthly pay envelopes of proportions reminiscent of pre-depression days. Springfield, Fitchburg and Lawrence, Mass. and New Rochelle, N.Y. reported full restoration of salaries during the first month of 1937. Dallas, Tex. restored 50 per cent. Baltimore and New York City have provided for complete restorations later this year.

Cincinnati and Los Angeles, Spokane and LaCrosse, Wis. are among the cities that restored salary levels late in 1936. Salary replacements are not entirely a current phenomenon, Carl Chatters, executive director of the M.F.O.A., explains. There has been a gentle movement since 1934 to restore pay cuts.

By the end of that year, according to Mr. Chatters, half of the larger American cities had reinstated salaries in whole or in part. Boston, Philadelphia, St. Louis, Denver, Fresno, Pensacola and Savannah were among the cities that made the increases before 1935. In January, 1935, Erie, Pa., restored in full a 10 per cent cut that had been in effect for two years; the city of Danville, Va. did likewise. Early in the same year 18 Michigan cities provided for general increases in salaries ranging from 5 to 20 per cent. San Francisco, Milwaukee, Newark, Nashville, Syracuse, Jacksonville, Tampa, Sacramento, Allentown, Peoria, Evansville, and others followed the move during the year.

Among cities which upped employees' pay in 1936 were Kalamazoo, Lansing and Saginaw, Mich. Ann Arbor, Mich. recently restored 5 per cent of a 11 2/3 per cent cut. A study of twenty of the larger cities of Oregon in September, 1936 indicated that one had a salary scale higher than in 1929; four had never made any general reduction, nine had made restorations in whole or in part, and only six had failed to

(MORE)

place salaries on the upward trend.

Few were the cities which did not made some cuts during the years just following 1930. In April, 1934, a survey made by the International City Managers' Association showed that 201 cities out of 210 reporting had reduced salaries an average of 17 per cent. Cities that made no move to economize by pay cuts during the depression included Albany and Troy, N.Y., Miami, Fla., Wilmington, Del., Council Bluffs, Ia., Newark and Springfield, O., Reading, Wilkes-Barre and York, Pa., Quincy, Mass., San Jose and Santa Monica, Calif. and Kansas City, Kans.

In many cases restorations have been piecemeal over a period of time. Baltimore, where employees will receive old-fashioned pay-checks sometime during 1937, made a partial restoration in 1934. By 1935 and 1936, the city had reduced the salary contributions exacted to 3 per cent for salaries from $1,500 to $2,100 and 6 per cent over $2,100. During the emergency period the salary reductions in Baltimore amounted to over $5,000,000.

Justification for increased salaries is found in the price indices of the United States Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, says the Municipal Finance News Letter. The combined index of the cost of living increased from 71.7 per cent (1923=100%) in April, 1933, to 85.7 per cent in October, 1936. This was an increase of nearly one-fourth. The index of retail food prices has risen during the same period from 59.9 to 82.9 per cent, or about 40 per cent. The news letter recalls that in April, 1935, the Congress of the United States raised all federal salaries back to normal by abolishing the last 5 per cent cut.

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News Bulletin of
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850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.3: For Wed., Mar. 10

States Act To Bar Patronage From Security

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Safeguards against patronage appointments to jobs in state departments newly created to administer the social security programs are being taken in a number of the 37 states which have not yet established general merit system provisions, according to the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada.

When candidates for clerical and stenographic jobs in the new unemployment compensation offices of Michigan come up for examination on March 20, Michigan will inaugurate her third step in developing a merit system, while the legislature is still considering a general state civil service law. In 1936 prison employees were put under the merit system. During the same year the State Emergency Relief Administration set up a civil service system for all state and county relief employees. Merit system provision for employees of the Unemployment Compensation Commission was written into the act that passed the special session of the legislature just prior to January 1, 1937. Present employees were notified upon appointment that their jobs would later be subject to open, competitive examination.

Idaho, another state where civil service for all state departments is considered, has set up a merit system in the unemployment compensation division of its industrial accident board. Mississippi reports that the merit system will be used in establishing the Mississippi Employment Service, to be connected with unemployment compensation activity. No form of civil service has ever before been applied to any job under the jurisdiction of the Mississippi state government.

Indiana's state emergency relief employees have also been working under the merit system. Pennsylvania and West Virginia are other states that have set up certain personnel standards for their ERA employees. Many state legislatures are considering in present sessions merit system bills to apply to welfare employees.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1937
Release No.4: For Thurs., Mar. 11

Council-manager Movement Expands

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This year may see an appreciable increase among council-manager cities in the United States, if activity by state legislatures and by cities as reported to the International City Managers' Association is carried out.

In at least four states where the type of city government depends on special legislative acts for each city, bills have been or will be introduced to broaden home-rule powers.

The legislature of Maine is considering a bill to authorize towns to establish the office of town manager. At present municipalities seeking this plan must secure a special charter from the legislature and submit it to local referendum. The proposed law is unusual in its provision that two or more towns may unite in the employment of a town manager.

Pennsylvania, which permits only boroughs to come under the council-manager plan by ordinance, is considering legislation to allow all municipalities to vote on its adoption.

The Illinois legislature, which previously gave only cities and villages under 5,000 population the right to set up council-manger government, will receive a bill now being prepared, to extend the enabling provision to cities of any size.

When the Florida legislature meets in April, action will be taken on a new municipal code for optional plans of local government. At present, home-rule provisions are entirely lacking.

Tennessee and Oklahoma, two states in which practically all cities can adopt the manager plan without special legislative action, will probably consider the enactment of a county-manager bill.

At present nine states require their cities to go to the legislature for a special act to change their form of government. These are Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Maine, Mississippi, Rhode Island and West Virginia. In West Virginia home rule was approved by voters in 1936, and enabling legislation is considered.

In Georgia, where 15 cities have come under council-manager government through special legislative charters, Cedartown, (pop.8,126) and Americus (pop.9,350) have prepared bills to provide them with this form of government. Kentucky cities of the third class--population 8,000 to 20,000--can adopt the manager plan by an act passed in special legislative session at the end of 1936. Previously, only second- and fourth-class cities had this privilege.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
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1 9 3 7
Release No.5: For Fri., Mar. 12

Who Should Serve on Planning Boards?

Planning

Whether state and city planning boards should be composed in part of representatives of specified professions or of civic-minded lay citizens without special training, is still a question in the practice of this comparatively new governmental function, according to Walter H. Blucher, executive director of the American Society of Planning Officials.

A bill introduced in the Michigan legislature for a permanent state planning commission prescribes that the personnel be made up of the state highway commissioner, the director of conservation and five additional members. The suggestion has been made, says Mr. Blucher, that the bill should specify as the additional members citizens representing professions such as civil engineering, landscape architecture, city planning and architecture.

In the opinion of Mr. Blucher, naming the exact professions that should be represented in the citizen-membership of a planning board does not safeguard against possibility of political appointments to the jobs, which pay in prestige rather than salary in most cases. In Michigan, he points out, the professions suggested for representation omit the sociologist, economist, and political scientist, who have contributions to make as important as those of designers.

"Appointment of a person by profession does not necessarily mean that he will have a knowledge of or interest in planning," he adds. "What is most needed is the public-spirited citizen who is willing to devote time and effort to the development of the community, state or regional plan."

As an example of effective planning where no provision has been made for the kind of professions represented by citizen-members, he cites the state planning boards of Oregon, Tennessee and Massachusetts, each of which has nine members. In Tennessee, planning board members cannot hold a full-time salaried public office. Massachusetts names three state officials and provides for six citizen members.

Among the cities, Detroit's planning commission includes one civil engineer, one structural engineer, one realtor, one physician, one lawyer and one architect, all specified in the charter. Cincinnati and Milwaukee, two cities of comparable size, have seven-member planning boards that include five and three citizen-members respectively, professions undesignated. "In the case of cities," Mr. Blucher adds, "if the professions of the planning board members are specified, the appointing official may at one time or another be forced to appoint a person little interested in local planning problems, merely because a doctor, lawyer or architect must be found before the planning agency is complete."

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News Bulletin of
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850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.6: For Sat. Mar., 13

Citizens Organize to Promote Community Welfare

Flint, Mich., is trying out a new kind of organization to foster community welfare. The Flint Community Association, described in the current issue of Public Management, magazine of the International City Managers' Association, was set up in August, 1936, by a joint committee representing the Community Fund and the Chamber of Commerce.

Members of the Association include all contributors in the annual community fund campaign. Its announced purpose is "to promote the interests of the people of Flint, the conducting of research and planning to that end, the collection and disbursement of funds for social service and other civic purposes, and assistance toward the coordination and increased effectiveness of community efforts."

The Association is now a going organization with full-time managing director and staff. It is governed by a board of 43 directors. Seven of them are ex-officio members -- the mayor, city manager, president of the board of education, superintendent of schools, president of the chamber of commerce, president of the Flint Community Fund, and chairman of the county board of supervisors. The association puts on annual campaigns for subscriptions, and to provide for needs of the Flint Community Fund.

Its work is divided into the four general fields of social welfare, civic improvement, cultural interests, and commercial activities. Special attention is directed to developing an adequate city plan. City and school finances are studied as well as the structures of city and county government. To obtain facts pertaining to the community and its problems, the Association has established the Flint Institute of Research and Planning. Among the problems on which the Institute believes effective social action may be secured are: Achievement of proper organization of community resources to meet social needs; adjustment of the local community machinery to the larger units of government and vice versa; education and recreation; social and health legislation; city planning; adjustment of racial and nationality groups; community conflict; housing; adult delinquency, and disaster relief.

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Release No.1: For Mon., Mar. 15

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Trailer Laws Sought In National Safety Drive

The trailer, motorized home of increasing thousands of vacationists and gasoline nomads, now comes into its share of attention in the current national drive for highway safety. The house trailer is one of the most vexatious highway problems of today. Yet hitherto it has been considered more a question of regulation than of safety.

The trailer's highway aspects were recognized at the nine-state Regional Conference on Highway Safety last week-end in New York City. The conference was called by Harold C. Ostertag, chairman of the New York Joint Legislative Committee on Interstate Cooperation which is affiliated with the Council of State Governments. A uniform legislative program to govern the trailer was officially considered there for the first time, and a uniform system of licensing and taxing the trailer was debated.

Several states, counties and cities have passed housing regulations to govern motor vacationists, shows a survey compiled jointly by the American Municipal Association, the American Public Welfare Association, the National Association of Housing Officials and the American Society of Planning Officials.

"The coming of the trailer," their report says, "merely means that these regulations must be brought up to date to cover new problems created by trailers..... At least seventeen states-- Arizona, California, Florida, Indiana, Kansas, Maine, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Utah, Vermont and Washington-- have found it desirable to enact laws specifically regulating tourist camps. State legislation usually specifies that camp operators must obtain annual licenses, which are granted after state inspection of the camp site. State inspection is primarily for the purpose of enforcing reasonable standards of public health and sanitation."

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However, the house trailer as a vehicle is only now finding real recognition in state statute books, and grave doubts have arisen as to whether certain phases of the motor vehicle laws applied to them. Since the trailer is mobile, the problem cuts across state lines, causing the current concern for uniform legislation on the trailer as a vehicle.

A recent report by the National Highway Users Conference shows that the trailer must be registered in forty-four states; but that it is taxed as personal property in only twenty-eight. Registration fees run from $2 annually in Connecticut to $10 per ton capacity in Colorado, and $10 minimum in Louisiana.

Non-resident privileges vary greatly, with twenty-five states on the reciprocity basis, and the others ranging from a twenty-five day privilege in Texas (with permit at 50¢ granting an additional 120 days) to ninety-day privileges in Michigan, South Carolina and Wyoming.

Regulations on equipment, such as clearance lights and reflectors, vary widely. Some states require brakes on trailers if over certain weights. California, the District of Columbia, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington require brakes on the combination basis (that is, combinations must have brakes on one or more of the units adequate to stop within the distance specified.)

The average maximum height for trailers by state law, the report shows, is about twelve feet; the average "combination" length varies from forty feet in Alabama to eighty-five feet in Washington. Most states fix the maximum width of the trailer at ninety-six inches.

Individual states have had to approach the trailer problem in different ways, in the light of special conditions, particularly such "vacation" states as California and Florida, and those in the north-central west. Michigan legislators must grapple the problem of regulating their trailers without crippling an industry which has had its greatest growth in that state.

As the trailer emerges into the safety scene, the national campaign for accident prevention through uniform traffic and drivers' license law waxes hotter. Many national organizations have joined the drive.

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News Bulletin of
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1 9 3 7
Release No.2: For Tues., Mar. 16

States Look at Lotteries: Legalize or Ban?

East and West, North and South, many of the state legislatures still in session are taking action on lotteries. Legislation runs from one extreme to the other--from Nevada's movement to repeal her amendment prohibiting lotteries to Georgia's, which would fine the sheriff who fails to enforce anti-lottery laws.

According to a survey made by the Council of State Governments, at least a dozen state legislatures are pondering bills on lotteries, some of them designed to tighten present restrictions, others to liberalize. Theoretically, lotteries have been "out" in all states since 1890, when Louisiana was last to give them up in the face of a new and more drastic federal law relating to lottery tickets. Some states have stretched a point or two in their restrictions, however, and in others, apparently, the present laws have not been stringent enough to cover the very close approaches to lotteries.

At least four states-- Maine, Nevada, Rhode Island and Illinois-- have been examining plans for lottery legalization in present legislative session. In Massachusetts and Missouri similar proposals, for the purpose of producing revenue for welfare purposes, were killed. Nevada's two legislative houses have already approved a joint resolution calling for repeal of an old constitutional amendment that prohibits lotteries. Since passage by two successive sessions of the legislature is required on any constitutional question, it will be 1939 before the people of the state must make up their minds. A state lottery proposition is reported as lying behind the measure. In Rhode Island a constitutional amendment is proposed to legalize lotteries to raise money for old age pensions and charitable purposes. The Illinois bill would merely permit any person engaged in business to offer and give to his customers, free without charge whatever, chance on any prize offered in appreciation of the customer's patronage...and not calling this a lottery. Such a

(MORE)

provision, if passed, would legalize prize drawings of all kinds, including theater bank nights.

States whose legislatures have been considering the prospect of curbing the people's willingness to "take a chance" by clamping down tighter their present lottery laws include Georgia, Iowa, Massachusetts, Ohio, Oregon, South Dakota, Tennessee and Utah.

Georgia would provide for enforcement of present anti-lottery laws by fining the sheriff who fails to do his duty when notified of the present of a game of chance. Tennessee, in one of two proposals, would make illegal the playing, operation or engaging in "policy," "lottery policy" or the "numbers" games that have been so popular in the state. Massachusetts, hitherto licensing beano, bagatelle, etc., is considering several bills to repeal the license law. Utah.is one of the states moving to redefine lotteries to include any projects called "raffle" or "gift enterprises," punch boards and marble machines. South Dakota, also redefining lottery in a proposal for prohibition, included "bank nights" and "chance nights."

Bank nights drawing crowds in theaters all over the country for the past two or three years have brought to the fore new legal opinion on the term "lottery" as written in the various state statutes. According to the Attorney-Generals' Division of the Council of State Governments, the diversity of legal opinion has usually resolved itself into two questions: whether the words "pay" and "valuable consideration"-- two of the three requisites of a lottery-- as used in state laws mean that one must actually hand over something of value for the chance to participate in the distribution of prizes; or whether "consideration" is made out by proof that some financial benefit accrues to the sponsor of the scheme through increased business.

Courts of Alabama, California, Colorado, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, New Hampshire, Tennessee, Mississippi and Massachusetts have held that to constitute "consideration" something of value must be passed from the participant to the sponsor. Michigan, New York, Texas, Virginia and Washington courts have held that the accrual of a financial benefit to the sponsor as a result of the scheme constitutes sufficient "consideration" to bring it within the policy of the lottery statutes. In some cases plans for bank nights have been held lotteries even though the purchase of an admission ticket was not made a prerequisite to registering for or claiming the prize.

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News Bulletin of
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Release No.3: For Wed., Mar. 17

Cities Told How to Untangle Finances

Half the financial headaches of cities are caused by poor budgeting and haphazard book-keeping, say finance authorities. The remedy lies primarily in consideration of all parts of the accounting and financial procedure in their relations to one another to determine whether practices now employed are adequate and satisfactory.

To make it easy for cities to measure their present procedures, a special committee on accounting of the Municipal Finance Officers' Association has just completed a pamphlet, "Standard Practice in Municipal Accounting and Financial Procedure." In it are assembled, for the first time in the history of modern municipal finance, the recognized principles of sound accounting procedure and financial administration. The three important elements concerned are: accounting and internal audit control; the collection, disbursement and custody of municipal funds; and post-auditing.

Cities err in their budget-making, the pamphlet points out, if they do not make their fiscal year and the budget year coincide. Fiscal and budget years should be planned so that revenues for financing operations will become available immediately after the beginning of the fiscal year. In estimating revenues and expenditures for the budget year, account should be taken of past revenues and expenditures, and allowance made for any changes in operating policies or in other conditions likely to affect either revenues or expenditures, such as unexpected losses in uncollectible taxes.

An air-tight accounting system is necessary to exercise budgetary control, without which the best prepared budget is of little use, the pamphlet points out. This means that the chief executive, the chief financial officer and the heads of the various municipal departments must cooperate actively. It also requires accounting records that show complete financial information promptly. Cost accounting, which provides for recording all elements of cost incurred in carrying on a municipal operation or completing a specific job, is strongly recommended to cities as a basis for budgeting and expenditure control.

The importance of financial reports is stressed. These include the internal reports that are prepared, advisedly once a month, for administrative officials as a guide in controlling and directing the general operations of the municipality, and the annual financial report, which should be prepared promptly at the close of the fiscal year for use by administrative officials, legislative bodies, and the public.

Advice is given on the post-audit, or external audit, made for the purpose of verifying the financial condition of the municipality at the close of the fiscal year, and to check for legal or technical errors. This audit may be made either by a municipal department, by independent private accountants, or by some state agency, says the pamphlet, but certain procedures should be followed whatever the case. In engaging auditing services cities are recommended to give primary consideration to the qualifications of the auditor, and not to award the audit contract on a competitive bid basis. There should be a clear understanding with the auditors via written contract as to the persons to whom the auditor is responsible, the kind of audit, the assistance the municipality is to furnish, when the audit is to be finished, etc., and the city should insist on an auditing procedure as outlined by the National Committee of Municipal Accounting.

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News Bulletin of
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1 9 3 7
Release No.4: For Thurs., Mar.18

States Strengthen Public Welfare Laws

Prominence of public welfare proposals on current legislative calendars, with passage of some of them already accomplished, points to the adoption of numerous improvements in state welfare facilities, according to Public Welfare News, bulletin of the American Public Welfare Association. In addition to providing more generously, by new or amended laws, for public assistance, unemployment compensation and other social needs in accordance with plans of the Federal Social Security Act, the states are more effectively gearing their welfare machinery to fit it for the increased demands of administration.

Bills providing more or less integrated departments of public welfare were introduced in 17 states during the first two months of sessions, and in 7 cases--Arkansas, Georgia, Idaho, New Mexico, South Dakota Tennessee and Wyoming-- they have already been stamped "approved." In general, the new laws provide for inclusion in one agency of the states' welfare responsibilities, and grant to that agency rather extensive supervisory powers over the administration and personnel standards of local public welfare agencies. According to Public Welfare News, the new laws recognize more and more, that public welfare functions are related to each other, and that an integrated organization is needed. The trend toward recognition of the principle of direct responsibility is reflected by provisions for direct appointment of the administrators by the governors. And "general relief" is being included in those phases of public welfare which are looked upon as permanent responsibilities of government.

In 39 of the 42 state legislatures in session thus far this year, new proposals or amendments on old age assistance have been introduced. Alabama, Georgia and Tennessee have enacted such laws. A general feature of these measures, proposed or passed, is the liberalizing of provisions of eligibility, especially those relating to the ownership of property, and the elimination of provisions relating to liens.

Blind assistance laws have been passed in six states--Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, New Mexico, New York and Tennesse -- and bills are pending in 22 others. This legislation reflects a trend away from blind pensions granted as a basis of right, toward more widespread provision for the needy blind.

Four states--Georgia, Minnesota, New York and Tennessee--have passed laws providing aid to dependent children; twenty-three others have legislation pending.

In the field of unemployment compensation, Arkansas, Montana and Wyoming have enacted new laws and seven other states have amended existing statutes. Most of these amendments are intended to simplify administrative procedure, but in one or two cases, the coverage of the laws has been broadened. Some amendments still pending contemplate changing from the pooled-fund to the employer-reserve system.

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Release No.5: For Fri., Mar. 19

Cities Improve Their Labor Employment Policies

Saving municipal money and providing fairer conditions of work for laborers is the objective of the new employment practice now in force for laborers in Duluth, Minn. This city has just established by ordinance a Bureau of Labor to regulate employment of skilled and unskilled workers, giving the laborers, in effect, a civil service standing.

In this move, according to the Civil Service Assembly, Duluth is following a few other large cities in the country that have developed similar plans for taking municipalunskilled labor out of patronage, at the same time providing a better check on the standard of work performed. According to latest information there are wide variations in wages among cities and little attempt is being made to establish uniform specifications.

Toledo six months ago established new rules for labor personnel in the employ of the city by an ordinance that extended the classified civil service to include all laborers. The Toledo Civil Service Commission prepares eligible lists from which all municipal laborers must be selected. Although no written tests are given, all applicants must demonstrate that they are physically fit and adapted to the work. A stabilized compensation system was also set up for the various types of labor, making it possible for department heads to budget estimates accurately by using unit costs per man-day or man-hour.

The new Duluth ordinance establishes an employment register for persons eligible for employment by the city. Potential employes are graded upward from common laborers to skilled laborers, and examinations are given to persons wishing to be registered in the latter class.

Few cities, according to the Civil Service Assembly, require little more than a medical examination of laborers. Most of them certify laborers for employment in the order of priority of registration or application, without regard for aptitude, fitness, etc. One municipality selects its laborers by lot;inanother, vacancies for most of the skilled labor positions are filled by nomination of the department head.

Detroit, Cincinnati and Milwaukee have established definite standards for certain types of labor positions, however. Under the Milwaukee system labor jobs are divided into wide classes, as heavy work, simple work, and work requiring ability to climb. Tests are given for each of these, to list properly the applicants for jobs.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
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1 9 3 7
Release No.6: For Sat., Mar. 20

Governmental Fact-finders Study Current Problems

Problems of finance, personnel, public welfare and public works are closest to the hearts of local and state governments at present, members of the Governmental Research Association, professional fact-finders in several hundred research agencies, report in answer to a questionnaire from the Association's Chicago headquarters.

Of nearly 200 subjects over which the governmental researchers are currently scratching their heads, more than a fourth concern finance, ten per cent each deal with personnel and public welfare, nine per cent have to do with public works, and the remainder are scattered among such subjects as governmental organization, schools and library service.

As an example of the financial studies: The Wisconsin Taxpayers' Association is analyzing Wisconsin income tax returns and a similar job is being done by the Oklahoma State Tax Commission for that state. The New Jersey Taxpayers' Association is making a break-down of governmental costs for the 31 largest cities of New Jersey. The Des Moines Bureau of Municipal Research is comparing expenditures of that city with those of comparable cities under council-manager government. The Youngstown Chamber of Commerce bureau of research is examining the effects of tax limitation on the city's income and expenditures. A ten-year analysis of municipal expenditures is being made for New Haven, Conn. by New Haven Taxpayers, Inc. Savings to Saginaw from the recently installed centralized purchasing service are being computed by the City of Saginaw Bureau of Public Information and Complaint.

Studies of personnel problems are being made by research bureaus in Maine, New Jersey, Virginia, Pennsylvania, Iowa, Maryland, Massachusetts, Indiana and Oregon, and for such cities as Baltimore, Minneapolis, New Orleans, Chicago and Los Angeles.

The studies in public welfare range from a scope that is statewide in Wisconsin to the care of indigent single men in Los Angeles. Research in public works varies from a survey of auto equipment owned by the city of New Orleans to a financial history of the entire state highway system in West Virginia.

The governmental researchers, of which there are about 400 in the country, do not pursue their investigations for the purpose of uncovering scandal in their local or state governments. It is their duty to find out facts about problems that seem to merit attention, and to present them to the governing bodies, with recommendations. Since 1905, when the first bureau of municipal research was established by the Citizens Union of New York City, over a hundred agencies of governmental research have been established in the United States by the federal, state and local governments. Some of these bureaus are citizen-supported; others are financed by the local government, and a number of them are maintained in connection with state universities.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1 9 3 7
Release No.1: For Mon., Mar. 22

States and Cities again Face Relief Puzzle

With President Roosevelt's relief message due, city, state and nation await his declaration of policy with many questions whirling in administrative heads. How will the W.P.A. plan emerge? Will it be curtailed? Will the relief load again be distributed on the theory that the national government handle employables through work relief and the state and locality handle the unemployables? How can the costs be best apportioned?

Behind all these questions loom two other fundamental ones-- Is relief to be regarded as a permanent instead of a temporary problem? And what will be done with the large residue of still uncared-for needy? This last question is particularly troubling workers in the social welfare field.

A million and a half persons are estimated to be benefiting at present through provisions of the Social Security Act, and an estimated 2,000,000 are on W.P.A. payrolls. Uncared-for needy outside both these classes fall into two divisions, the American Public Welfare Association finds.

There are those now without funds who are too old to work, yet not eligible for old age assistance. Under most state laws, they are the "poor relief" responsibility of the local governments. These same local governments--cities, townships and counties--must also take care of the residue of unemployed who have obtained no jobs in private industry, yet are not eligible for W.P.A. because of the one-job-to-a-family ruling or for some other reason.

The states and cities, awaiting President Roosevelt's new national plan for relief, are viewing the situation in various ways.

Governors of six states--Illinois, New York, Minnesota, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Wisconsin--recently called on the President to ask continuance of W.P.A. for the fiscal year 1938 that begins July 1, 1937. Measures have been sought in legislatures of these and other states--New Jersey, Oklahoma, Nebraska and

(MORE)

Pennsylvania--memorializing Congress to continue W.P.A. Washington asks that all persons 65 years or older dropped from W.P.A. payrolls be reinstated until they receive their first old age pension checks. California's petition seeks a "permanent policy on unemployment relief" from the federal government.

Meanwhile, other legislatures have passed measures to continue emergency relief within their confines. Pennsylvania has approved a bill to appropriate $4,800,000 to the state ERA for direct work relief and administrative expenses; a second act approved appropriates $5,700,000 to the state Emergency Relief Board for the same purpose, with $32,500 reserved for Veterans' Relief. North Dakota has appropriated one and a half million for "relief." Montana has re-established its former relief quota. Ohio has approved the re-enactment of the 1935 emergency relief law to provide for continuance of emergency relief, and to authorize counties and cities to issue bonds to pay their shares. This state also passed in its present session, a temporary relief bill appropriating $4,000,000 for Ohio counties to cover poor and flood relief until April 15th. The New Jersey legislature is shaping a $12,000,000 relief program for 1937 that calls for a contribution of $3,000,000 from the municipalities, the $1,750,000 remaining in the state's liquidated ERA, and about $7,000,000 diverted from highway funds.

Additional taxes on property, on newspaper advertising, fuel, theatre admissions, motion picture films, licensing of vending machines, and sales and inheritance taxes are among the means proposed for obtaining revenue for these various state programs. The Illinois legislature has voted a 3 per cent sales tax on utilities until July 1, 1938, and a continuing 2 per cent tax thereafter, for emergency relief to July, 1938.

Pennsylvania, frankly recognizing the probability of a continuous relief problem, has voted an appropriation of $5,000 for a legislative commission on the permanent administration of unemployment relief.

Several state legislatures are giving their temporary emergency relief agencies a more permanent status by voting their incorporation into the state welfare department. Idaho has passed a bill establishing a state department of public assistance to succeed the ERA. New York has transferred the home relief function of its Temporary Emergency Relief Administration, continued until July 1, 1937, to the state welfare department. A permanent system of state aid for home relief is established, and by a legislative proposal now pending $20,000,000 would be appropriated for advances to municipalities and towns for this purpose.

In numerous legislatures proposals have been introduced providing for the division of the relief load among the state, counties and cities, temporarily authorizing the local governments to issue bonds for relief or to increase tax levies in cases where tax-limitation statutes or other rulings ordinarily prevent.

Along with the appropriations and financing plans for relief considered by legislatures convening since January 1st, there have been many moves to revise existing welfare provisions, among them "settlement" laws on the eligibility for relief aid. Most of these have been on the liberalizing side, according to the American Public Welfare Association.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
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1 9 3 7
Release No.2: For Tues., Mar. 23

Cities' Fees Increase as Busses Multiply

Motor carriers - Taxation

There are still about 34,000 street cars as against 19,000 busses operating in 982 cities in the United States, urban transit analysts estimate. However, recent figures indicate that the bus is gaining steadily, becoming at the same time a problem for municipal regulation and a considerable source of revenue.

Within the last year, all-bus cities in communities of more than 10,000 population have increased from 393 to 434. Cities served by street cars have decreased from 74 to 62.

A sampling survey taken by the American Municipal Association shows that 27 cities have received within a year $414,124 in licensing fees from private bus corporations. Of 2101 busses, 171 were of the trolley type, 1930 were operated by gasoline motor.

Twelve of the 34 cities, according to the A.M.A. survey, assess a flat annual fee per bus. Fees range from $25 in St. Louis and Salt Lake City to $200 in Rochester, N.Y. Five other cities levy graduated fees on a per bus, per passenger or per seat basis. Duluth, for example, derives $1.50 per passenger annually from the bus companies.

Fifteen of the cities surveyed take a per cent of the gross annual receipts from the bus corporations, three of them in addition to the license fee. Amounts vary from 19/100 of 1 per cent in Minneapolis, to 5 per cent in Norfolk and Trenton. Denver requires an over-all payment of $15,000; Greensboro, N.C. asks $2,500, and Raleigh, $2,000.

Of the cities reporting in the survey, Birmingham, in the "big city" class, reported the highest revenue from local bus systems, collecting $114,375 in 1936. St. Louis derived $90,709; Norfolk, $34,014; Milwaukee, $40,894; Rochester, $30,800; New Orleans, $29,316. Minneapolis reported only $1,575, although the bus company with the franchise has 63 busses in operation. Salt Lake City, from 72 busses, got $1,825. Among the smaller cities, Lansing received $2,450; Macon, $500; Columbus, O. $2,400.

In a few cases cities derive revenue also from interurban bus line franchises. Buffalo gets over $20,000 a year from this source. Rochester, which levies an a annual fee of $25 on each interurban bus, derives revenue amounting to $2,350 a year, and Syracuse, with a $75 fee, gets $3,075.

Nine of the cities reported both trolley and gasoline busses, the rest gasoline only.

When the current franchise taxes and licenses were compared with those of recent years for nine of the cities it was found that in four cases the rates had gone up; in four they were the same, and in one case they were reduced.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.3: For Wed., Mar. 24

Tax collection-Inst.

"Painless" Tax-Payments Survive in Many Cities

Instalment payment of taxes, life-saver to many a city treasury during the past few years, may turn out to be a lasting and useful memento of the depression, according to Carl H. Chatters, executive director of the Municipal Finance Officers' Association.

Although keeping records of bit-by-bit tax payments brings the city added costs in clerical work, many finance officers report general approval of the plan because it makes the city's financing easier; it benefits the taxpayer, particularly the "little fellow," and it lessens both borrowings and cash balances.

Behind the benefit to the taxpayer lies the theory that the average citizen will more likely bear his taxes and grin if the bill comes oftener, and in smaller amounts, than if it comes in a lump, once a year. The chore of accounting for taxes under the instalment plan, in the larger cities especially, is most easily done with machines, Mr. Chatters points out.

Instalment payment of taxes dates back over thirty years in Augusta, Ga. Scranton, Pa. and Richmond, Va., are long-experienced in the practice. With few exceptions, however, according to Mr. Chatters, tax "instalments" have been instituted in the lean years since 1929. The plans have ranged from a semi-annual and quarterly basis to monthly collections, although the latter are infrequent, being too costly to the municipality. Quarterly payments are recommended by finance authorities, with the first one scheduled as near as possible to the beginning of the fiscal year.

At present over forty states have statutes providing for the practically painless plans of tax collection, many of which are optional to cities. It is conservatively estimated that about one-third of the municipalities in states with such laws have established fixed plans for instalment payments.

Cities that permit taxpayers to pay their annual bills in ten or twelve instalments are Boston, Pittsburgh, Tampa, Fla., Somerville, Mass.; Charlotte, N.C., Kalamazoo, Mich. and Stockton, Calif. Among the cities that have recently adopted the more common quarterly plan are Norfolk and Petersburg, Va. Rochester, N.Y. and a number of New Jersey cities, including Passaic, New Brunswick, Elizabeth and Perth Amboy, are among cities that have recently reported success with the plan after a year's experience. Outremont, Quebec, makes it possible for any taxpayer whose budget will not comfortably bear the whole tax bill at once to petition to pay it by instalments. No fines are imposed for delays in payment of taxes other than the interest accruing at 6 per cent from the due date of the taxes imposed.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
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Release No. 4: For Thurs., Mar. 25

Cities Urged to "Program" Public Works - Planning

Cities that regard public works planning as a necessity--not as a luxury or a phase of emergency work relief--are following the economical course these days, according to Frank W. Herring, executive director of the American Public Works Association.

In the current issue of the Public Works Engineers' News Letter issued by the Association, Mr. Herring says:

"Too often in the past, particularly during the years of deepening depression and declining tax revenues, planning activities have been looked on as frills, as non-essentials, and have been either starved or sacrificed completely. Now that local governments are returning to a better nourished state, it is necessary, if only for reasons of true economy, that planning activity be reestablished in those communities that abandoned it, and introduced in those that have never known its benefits."

By establishing a program of public improvement work for the next five or ten years, says Mr. Herring, cities are following a "very hard-headed, practical method of assuring that the expenditure of public funds will yield the maximum of social values." These are among the benefits he finds in a proper program:

1. It will conserve public funds for tomorrow's important job and prevent the exhaustion of financial resources today for the construction of items of secondary importance.

2. It will serve as a defense against the demands of minority groups for municipal improvements that would be in conflict with the community's long-run interest.

3. Facilities installed today can be made large enough to meet the increased demands of the future, thereby avoiding the disproportionate expense so frequently involved in enlargements.

4. Interferences and conflicts between two or more improvements, which would otherwise not be disclosed until the future, can be avoided.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.5: For Fri., Mar. 26

Taxation Exemption

State Rivalry Grows in Industrial Tax Exemption

Issuing financially attractive invitations to industries to settle down within their boundaries is still on the increase with states, despite the rising tide of business recovery. Tax exemption of machinery or of the property on which the enterprises are located is one of the most common of the various forms which these invitations take.

Wyoming's legislature, just adjourned, took steps to exempt beet-sugar factories from taxation for a period of years, beginning May 18. Three nearby states--Utah, Nebraska and Colorado--that have heavy investments in this industry provide no such exemption. Within the past year, according to the National Association of Assessing Officers, two of the eleven states which previously allowed new industries to go tax free for a period of time expanded the terms of the exemption. Several states are considering exemption of manufacturing machinery. Bills of this type have been introduced at current legislative sessions of Ohio, Connecticut and Wisconsin. In the last two states the proposals were killed.

Louisiana and Mississippi recently increased the tax-free period for new industrial plants. In November, Louisiana voters overwhelmingly favored two industrial exemption amendments to their constitution. One of these extended from 5 years to 10 the period over which municipalities and parishes may vote exemptions to newly established industries and additions to existing plants. The second permits the governor to enter into contracts with owners of new or expanding industries exempting them from taxation for a period up to 10 years. Voters exercise no control over exemptions granted under the latter provision.

Mississippi's industrial exemption laws were expanded by the legislature in special sessions last fall, exempting virtually all industries for a five-year period. This exemption, too, is not discretionary with the voters, as it is in most other states.

While most exemptions are only temporary, such "subsidization" is frowned upon by tax authorities in general, says Albert W. Noonan, technical director of N.A.A.O. on the basis that states might carry to extremes competitive under-bidding for industries.

Other states that provide or permit exemptions for some or all new industries are: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Vermont and Virginia. States which exempt most industrial machinery are: Delaware, New York and Massachusetts. Several other states grant either partial or temporary exemption.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
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1 9 3 7
Release No.6: For Sat., Mar. 27

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Traffic Experts Debate Tickets for Jay-Walkers

Jay-walkers and other pedestrians contribute about 65 per cent to cities' traffic tolls, according to a survey made for Columbus, O., by its traffic engineer, who, when he saw the results, recommended an ordinance providing penalties for pedestrians ignoring traffic signals and rules.

As reported in the Police Chiefs' News Letter, bulletin of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Traffic Engineer J. R. Guthrie pointed out that of the 2,465 automobile accidents in Columbus during the past year, 851, or 24.5 per cent, involved pedestrians. Of fatalities from these accidents, 64.9 per cent were pedestrians, while 53.4 per cent of all persons injured were on foot.

"A study of these figures," he said, "shows that pedestrians take advantage of the fact that the traffic code does not require the same obedience from them as it does from motorists. Observations at any intersection protected by a traffic light, particularly in the business area, will show conclusively that pedestrians ignore traffic lights. Arresting a pedestrian for crashing a red light might seem rather drastic, but the saving in lives and property should warrant such action."

The Police Chiefs' News Letter quotes recent statistics on pedestrian accidents for 1936, which indicate that, over the country, 16,160 citizens were killed on the streets during the year, and 293,350 injured. Fifteen per cent of the fatalities came about through disregard of traffic signals at street intersections, and 28.7 per cent through crossing between intersections.

Among cities now having legislation regulating jaywalking and pedestrian traffic are: Birmingham, Ala.; Los Angeles and Long Beach, Calif.; Hartford and New Haven, Conn.; Wilmington, Del.; St. Louis, Mo.; Syracuse, N.Y.; Cleveland, Dayton, Cincinnati, and Toledo, O.; Wilkes-Barre, Pa.; Knoxville and Nashville, Tenn.; Milwaukee, Wis.; and Washington, D. C.

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News Bulletin of
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Release No.1: For Mon., Mar. 29

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Social Legislation Leads As States Begin To Adjourn

More than one-third of 1937's "regular" legislative business is completed. With adjournment of Nevada, North Carolina and Georgia scheduled for last week, 16 of the 43 states in scheduled session have heard the gavel fall for the last time, barring chance of special calls later in the year. States still in session number 25, with Tennessee recessing to May 5, and Florida ready to convene April 6th.

Bills passed indicate that the 1937 record will be characterized by widespread adoption of social welfare measures, both new and amended, a check by the American Public Welfare Association shows. Every state has enacted or is considering some sort of social legislation, ranging from revision of settlement laws to complete renovation of the social service set-up. Tax-measures will run a close second in terms of widespread distribution, owing, in part, to the need for funds to support the expanded welfare programs.

A sampling of bills that have received legislators' approval in ten of the states now adjourned shows that in the field of social welfare:

Arkansas, Montana, Wyoming, and Idaho have provided for new state and county departments of public welfare, with broad responsibilities for public assistance and child welfare. Idaho amended the 1935 legislation to make similar provision on a permanent basis for the administration of public welfare activities. An interesting feature of the Washington State Department of Social Security is the integration of unemployment compensation and public employment service with public assistance and welfare activities. In Arizona the State Board of Public Welfare was replaced by a new Board of Social Security and Public Welfare. Counter to the general trend, this Arizona legislation provides multiple control rather than responsibility to a single executive. Both Idaho and Indiana have liberalized unemployment compensation provisions previously enacted, eliminating contributions from employees. North and South Dakota and West Virginia were other states enacting social legislation, while Indiana, Arkansas, and North Dakota passed measures that will enable their local governments to participate in a low-cost housing program.

To finance these ambitious plans and to fill state exchequers in general:

Arizona substituted an estate tax act for a previous inheritance tax law; Arkansas voted a 2 per cent retail sales tax, including amusement admissions and utility services; and an increased tax on liquor. Montana approved revenue-raising proposals ranging from a higher income tax, and an annual gross income tax on telephone companies and motion-picture theaters to a license tax on corporations, and

(MORE)

a 50-cent excise tax on each gallon of liquor sold in the state. Among North Dakota measures was a 2 per cent sales tax on automobiles bought outside the state and the re-establishment of the state income tax. South Dakota raised its 2 per cent sales tax to 3 per cent, voted a 2-mill property tax and a 10 per cent gross wholesale liquor tax plus a doubling of liquor stamp taxes. Washington eliminated its sales tax exemption on foodstuffs, put a 1-cent tax on each Christmas tree cut and shipped outside the state. West Virginia voted many new taxes, including a rise in the state income tax in the higher brackets, and an increase of one cent in the gas tax. Wyoming voted a selective sales tax and a "use tax" providing for a 2 per cent levy on articles bought outside the state for use therein.

As an aid to taxpayers delinquent in payment and in danger of losing their property, seven of the ten states checked--Idaho, Indiana, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Washington and Wyoming--made provisions for redemption of such property or for leniency in payment. Washington, Indiana and South Dakota put delinquent tax payments on an installment basis. Arkansas, South Dakota and Wyoming approved homestead exemption measures and Arizona, North Dakota and South Dakota wrote moratorium extensions on mortgages.

Measures designed to promote highway safety were approved by three of these legislatures. Indiana and North Dakota passed drivers' license laws, and Idaho made automobile drivers involved in accidents financially responsible for damages. Toward safety of another kind, Arizona, Indiana and Washington approved the making of interstate compacts to combat crime.

Civil service for state departments became a law in Arkansas and Tennessee; for cities over 4,000, if they want it, in North Dakota. Other miscellaneous acts passed legalize and tax bank nights in Arkansas; set up a state labor board in Indiana; license punchboards in Montana; prohibit slot-machines and raffles in North Dakota; outlaw walkathons and other endurance contests in Washington; shorten the ballot in Montana and enable home-rule for West Virginia cities.

Check of the total number of bills passed by six of these legislatures indicates that on an average 266 acts were approved in each.

The sixteen states that have completed their regular sessions are Arizona, Arkansas, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Montana, New Mexico, Nevada, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, West Virginia and Wyoming. Of the other 26 now meeting, three states--Connecticut, Maryland and Minnesota--have limits set for them: Maryland on April 5; Minnesota, May 11, and Connecticut, June 9. Seven states have no session limits set by law, but either cease to pay their legislators or reduce their remuneration after forty, sixty, seventy or 120 days. Many of these legislatures have outsat their salaried days. In the list are Delaware, Missouri (which has paid legislators $1 a day since March 16), Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas. States whose sessions are unlimited are: California, Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Nebraska (which must sit at least sixty days and has done so), New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Vermont and Wisconsin. Four states that do not hold regular sessions this year have already met in special session during a part of 1937: Alabama, Kentucky, Oklahoma and Virginia.

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News Bulletin of
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Release No.2: For Tues., Mar. 30

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States Divided on Fingerprinting Drivers

While the nation's largest police agencies, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and New York's Police Department, advocate universal fingerprinting, several states are supporting a more specific plan to fingerprint all motor vehicle, truck and taxicab drivers.

This movement was pointed up by discovery at Chicago's Bureau of Identification that, among drivers arrested for violence in that city's current taxicab strike, five were ex-convicts and two had police records.

States which approve the idea stress the identification value of fingerprinting. States opposing find that the system would needlessly inconvenience motor car owners, and one state, Florida, disfavors "making suspected criminals of all motor car drivers."

A digest of the attitude of state motor vehicle commissioners issued through the Council of State Governments shows that fourteen states favor fingerprinting of all motor vehicle drivers. These are Alabama, Arizona, California, Idaho, Kansas, Michigan, Mississippi, New Jersey, New Mexico, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, West Virginia and Wisconsin. New Jersey and Wisconsin give "qualified approval."

States favoring the fingerprinting of public service motor vehicle operators are: Connecticut, Maryland and New Hampshire.

States which have expressed opposition to such fingerprinting are: Florida, Massachusetts, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and Wyoming.

The problem of fingerprinting car operators was discussed at the recent nine-state regional highway conference in New York City, called by the New York Joint Legislative Committee on Interstate Cooperation. Commissioners on interstate cooperation, legislative leaders and highway and motor vehicle administrators were present, as well as federal officials in the field.

The digest of opinions on fingerprinting was prepared by William E. Hannan, librarian of the Legislative Reference Section of the New York State Library.

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News Bulletin of
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1 9 3 7
Release No.3: For Wed., Mar. 31

Police-Commun.- Radio

Radio Becoming Popular Weapon in Fight on Crime

Radio communication has become a good right arm for police during the 10-year period since its first use by a few municipal police departments. Current reports from the Federal Communications Commission show that 567 municipal and county police radio stations are now in operation.

Reviewing progress of police radio over the decade, the Police Chiefs' News Letter, bulletin of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, lists as important developments the following:

Two-way radio: Of all radio systems in operation, 317 are of the two-way variety. Bayonne, N.J. was one of the first cities to install a two-way system. The experiment, made in 1934, was followed by many other departments, which found that two-way radio is advantageous because it allows continuous two-way contact with patrol cars, almost completely eliminates dead-spots, and is much cheaper than one-way broadcasting on 1610-2490 kilocycles. So far found best adapted to needs of small or medium-sized cities set off by themselves, two-way radio admits of possibilities as yet untested. Boston is the first large city to install the two-way system on an extensive scale. Nassau County, N.Y. is experimenting with a two-way county hook-up.

State police radio: Radio has greatly aided state police forces in speeding cars to scenes of crime and in concentrating them in large numbers when necessary. Following Michigan's example in 1930, state police radio spread rapidly, until at the close of 1936 there were 112 state police radio stations in 17 states licensed and operating or in the course of construction. West Virginia's legislature, just adjourned, approved an appropriation for a state police radio system, and Virginia, with an appropriation made last year, is studying the prospect. New Jersey, which has both county and city systems, has a special commission at work on a statewide

(MORE)

system.

Inter-city Communication: Starting in a random manner, inter-city communication led to complaints of interference with local police radio calls. Solution of the problem came from the Associated Police Communications Officers, organization formed in 1934, which developed a code for the purpose, leaving voice for intra-city messages. The Federal Communications Commission, now issuing zone and inter-zone licenses to key stations in the inter-city network, has made Rule 337-a, which states that after January 1, 1938, all inter-city police radio communications must be in code and through zone and inter-zone stations.

International police radio: Mexico and Cuba are expressing interest in an extension of U.S. police radio over their borders. An engineering conference of radio experts was recently held in Havana to discuss this international use of radio.

The Police Chiefs' News Letter forecasts that during the next five years many more municipal, county and state police departments will equip themselves, with most of the systems financed from taxes and a few financed by public subscription. Installation of radio has contributed to direct savings in man-power by stimulating the reorganization of all communications and of record systems, by reducing the number of precinct stations needed, and by speeding motorization of patrol work.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE 1 9 3 7
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois Release No.4: For Thurs., April 1

Cities and States Advised Against Relief Borrowing

There is no further justification for states and local governments to borrow for unemployment relief, Carl H. Chatters, executive director of the Municipal Finance Officers' Association, asserted in a statement today.

"If the revenue structures of these governmental units will not permit them to meet such charges from current revenues," he said, "then it is difficult to foresee when they can do so. State and local governments that continue to borrow for relief purposes seem to be following an unwise fiscal policy."

Mr. Chatters pointed out that on a three-year average the federal government paid 70.9 per cent for emergency relief; the states, 12.8 per cent and the localities 16.3. He finds that obligations paid from federal funds during this period totaled nearly $3,000,000,000, and poses for states and cities the question: What would happen if the federal government should withdraw any substantial portion of its financial assistance?

Social changes and increased legislation for social services must be faced by cities by adjusting their methods of municipal finance, Mr. Chatters added. "Municipal expenditures will continue to increase if the present services alone are retained. How could it be otherwise with higher commodity prices and rising salaries? There also seems to be new activities constantly added in the social services and increasing demands for pensions by public employees in order to equalize the benefits of public employment with those of private employment under the Social Security Act. A study of national income indicates that the total compensation of government employees has about returned to the 1929 level. As a matter of fact, the total salaries and wages of Federal employees are 101.3 per cent; state employees 109.2 per cent; educational employees 103.7 per cent; county, township and minor civil employees 89.7 per cent, and city employees 85.6 per cent of 1929 levels.

"City employees are receiving far less salary restoration in proportion to other public employees. In view of these circumstances, it is difficult to see how municipal expenditures will be reduced in the future. We may look, therefore, for changes in the revenue system to accommodate the added costs due to arise."

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Release No.5: For Fri., April 2

Cities Test Grinding in Refuse Disposal - [illegible]

Cities are increasingly experimenting with a knotty and costly problem, refuse disposal, the solution of which is so important to the city's sanitation and sightliness. Municipal engineers are watching with particular interest the innovation of garbage grinding, which grinds refuse and disposes of it along with the city's sewage.

Cities use several methods of refuse disposal. Incineration, dumping at sea, filling of waste land, reduction (which recovers the grease content) and feeding to swine are among the common methods.

Several cities, among them Baltimore and St. Louis, have inaugurated the grinding method, according to a survey by the American Public Works Association, which points out that the innovation has a chance of wide adoption as soon as the many problems involving sewage treatment processes can be overcome.

Refuse grinding is accomplished in three different ways: by a small grinder installed in homes beneath the kitchen sink; by central grinding stations located over trunk sewers, or by grinding at the sewage plant. Sewerage systems of cities where the plan is in practice have thus far suffered no special harm, it is reported.

Baltimore, Md. was the first large city to install a garbage grinding station, building a plant in 1933 to relieve municipal incinerators during summer peak loads. The first municipal garbage grinding plant for the disposal of all garbage collected by city forces was built by St. Louis, Mo. in 1934. Ground garbage from both these cities is discharged into the sewers. Indianapolis set up a temporary grinding plant at the grit chambers of its sewage treatment plant in 1935, when its garbage reduction plant was put out of service for seven months. Other cities are reported as considering provision for incineration of ground garbage along with the sludge resulting from the sewage treatment process.

St. Louis' garbage grinding plant has been in operation daily for about fifteen months. Designed and built by city forces it cost $40,000, exclusive of land, overhead and contractors' profit. During the fiscal year 1935-36 nearly 41,000 tons of garbage were collected and ground up at a cost, including maintenance, water, power and labor, of $0.413 per ton. Previously the city had been paying about $25,000 per year to hog farms for barging the garbage down the Mississippi River. Savings under the grinding system are reported as more than offsetting the cost of the first grinding plant. A second plant has been recommended to care for expected increased collections.

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News Bulletin of
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Release No.6: For Sat., April 3

City Planning

Traffic

City Plan Called Way To Solve Traffic Jams

Cities that merely analyze accident sources, traffic origin and destination and other mechanical details, without considering community planning, are taking the wrong road to solving their traffic problems, according to Walter H. Blucher, executive director of the American Society of Planning Officials.

Fundamental factors that must be considered, says Mr. Blucher, are the location of population, the types of residences and concentration of population in residential areas, the location of industry, the location of offices and concentration of population in offices--all elements that fall within the scope of study of the planning agency.

Oakland, Calif., Mr. Blucher points out, is one of the few cities that has tied its traffic studies up to planning. The city is the nucleus of a large metropolitan area including eight other cities, with a total urban population of nearly 500,000, so regional planning is a necessity. Since 1932, when Oakland set up a city planning commission, several street projects have been carried out according to a regional plan. Among them is an inter-city superhighway for carrying fast interurban and industrial traffic. Traffic problems are studied as a part of the city planning engineer's duties. In 1935-36 a regional survey of mass transportation in the entire east-bay territory was made with the aid of ERA and WPA labor. A comprehensive traffic survey last year included traffic counts; observation and analyses of traffic violations and accidents, and of traffic speeds and delays; pedestrian studies, and parking analyses in congested areas.

Among other cities that have included traffic studies as a part of general city planning are Boston, Louisville, Milwaukee, Wichita and several Iowa cities, which were aided by the state planning board.

The advantage in employing a planner's knowledge on traffic problems, according to Mr. Blucher, "is that in addition to study of traffic counts and flow of traffic, the effects of such factors as known trends in population changes and moves of industry can be evaluated. The obvious answer to traffic congestion is not always the right one. In some cases crowded roads that would seem to call for a new, expensive highway program offer only a temporary problem that in time will clear itself through shifts of other factors far removed from traffic."

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NOTE TO EDITOR: Release No.4 is a story on the Accident Prevention Bureaus now being established by the Safety Division of the International Association of Chiefs of Police in many cities of the country. Copies of the pamphlet describing these bureaus are available. If you are interested in seeing it, we shall be glad to have a copy sent you, without charge. Address: HAL HAZELRIGG, EDITORIAL ASSOCIATE, PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE, 850 E. 58th ST., CHICAGO.

News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.1: For Mon., Apr. 5

APR 3 1937

Exemption of "Government Workers" from Income Tax

Taxation - Exemption

Exemption of governmental employees from income taxes imposed by another level of government can no longer be taken for granted in all cases, it appears from recent opinions of state attorney-generals. While the U.S. Supreme Court recently declared the salary of a New York City waterworks employee immune from the federal income tax, thereby setting a precedent for exemption of thousands of similar employees throughout the country, attorney-generals of at least three states--Wisconsin, Montana and West Virginia--have ruled that employees of many of the new federal agencies are not immune from state income taxes.

The matter of income tax exemption, which assumes importance because 34 states now have income tax laws and in several other states such laws are pending, is discussed in the first issue of the "Digest of Opinions" published by the Attorney-Generals Section of the Council of State Governments. (This "digest" is the first regular publication to collect and clear opinions of state attorney-generals on current subjects of common importance. It is prepared for the National Association of Attorney-Generals.)

Wisconsin's Attorney-General Orland S. Loomis has ruled that employees of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration and the National Recovery Administration must pay taxes on salaries received from the defunct organizations because they have been declared unconstitutional. In the case of 14 other federal instrumentalities he holds

> The A. A. A. and N. R. A. were declared invalid because their purposes were beyond the constitutional powers of the federal government
>
> THEREFORE, these agencies were not engaged in performing any "sovereign" function of government.
>
> THEREFORE, the compensation paid their employees is not exempt from state income tax.
>
> -- Opinion of Attorney-General of Wisconsin.

(MORE)

that remuneration paid to their employees is not immune from the state tax because the government maintains them in its "proprietary" and not in its "governmental" capacity. These include the Federal Farm Mortgage Corporation, Federal Home Loan Bank, Federal Intermediate Credit Bank, Federal Land Bank, Bank for Cooperatives, Home Owners' Loan Corporation, Production Credit Corporation, Reconstruction Finance Corporation, Regional Agricultural Credit Corporation, Commodity Credit Corporation, Rural Electrification Administration, Federal Housing Administration, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation.

Federal "alphabetical" agencies whose employees are immune from the state income tax under the ruling of the Wisconsin attorney-general, are the Farm Credit Administration, National Emergency Council, National Reemployment Service, National Youth Administration, Civilian Conservation Corps, Federal Emergency Relief Administration, Public Works Administration, Emergency Crop and Feed Loan Office, and the Resettlement Administration. His reasoning is that they are organized for rehabilitation and relief, which are sovereign governmental functions.

West Virginia's attorney-general, Clarence D. Meadows, fails to agree with the Wisconsin attorney-general about salaries of FHA and HOLC employees, including them in the immune class, along with those who receive remuneration from PWA, WPA, CCC and FERA. Compensation of persons contracting with a municipality or state to perform services upon projects financed by PWA or FHA are not exempt, however.

Attorney-General Harrison Freebourn, of Montana, agrees with the Wisconsin opinion, that personnel of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation and the Regional Agricultural Credit Corporation are not exempt from state income tax, also holding that these instrumentalities are owned by the federal government in its proprietary rather than its governmental capacity.

While an attorney-general's opinion, it is pointed out, does not have a conclusive effect like the decision of a court, it is still the official guide of the tax-collecting officer and will be followed until a court directs otherwise. Since recourse to the courts is slow and often tortuous, many employees will have to pay, either with or without protest, before the United States Supreme Court will have finally passed on the question.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
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1 9 3 7
Release No.2: For Tues., Apr. 6

Personnel, Pu [illegible]

New Federal Civil Service Jobs Offered to College Grads

College graduates with bachelor's degrees in the social sciences--economics, political science, sociology and related subjects--have been invited by the U.S. Civil Service Commission to take a new type of examination this month.

Up until April 19 (or April 22, in the far Western states) applications will be accepted for social science analyst positions, of which there are seven ranks. For the lowest of these--"junior social science analyst"--college training, without experience, is sufficient qualification for eligibility.

Explaining the significance of the examination, which will probably be taken by thousands of young men and women, G. Lyle Belsley, executive director of the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada, says:

"Ordinarily the Civil Service Commission holds examinations to fill a particular position, or small number of similar positions, in a particular government bureau. Ocasionally, however, the Commission establishes at one time a whole series of eligible lists or registers, to be used by many governmental agencies in selecting new employees. The 'Junior Civil Service Examiner' examination, given for the first time in 1934, was one of these.

"To administer the present program of government activities, many persons with broad training in the social sciences and in social science research are needed. It is to meet this need that the Civil Service Commission is creating a new series of eligible registers."

One examination will be given for positions designated as "assistant social science analyst" and "junior social science analyst." Those who are now completing their last year in college may compete for positions on the junior social science analyst register. Another examination will be given to those who have had post-graduate work in one of the social sciences and have had research experience, to select qualified persons for the positions of "associate," "senior" and "principal" social science analysts. From the eligible lists established as a result of these examinations employees will be chosen for such organizations as: the Social Security Board, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Children's Bureau, Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, the Interstate Commerce Commission, Bureau of the Census and the Securities and Exchange Commission. As the positions carry salaries ranging from $2000 to $5600 a year it is believed that the ablest young social scientists in the country will apply, and that the national government will be in a position to secure the best talent available to fill positions demanding technical knowledge of sociology, economics and public administration.

This method of recruiting government employees, Mr. Belsley comments, is in line with the recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry into Public Service Personnel, which made this statement in its report of two years ago: "We do not believe that the public service should first be minutely classified into pigeonholes, for which the civil service commission tries to find men who exactly fit each compartment, but rather that the service should be divided into ladders, for which young men are normally selected to start on the bottom rung."

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News Bulletin of
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Release No.3: For Wed., Apr. 7

Cities Increase Their Services to Public

With better business conditions, city dwellers are asking for new municipal services and for extension of the old, established activities. It's a long step from street and sewer maintenance, fire and police protection that constituted almost the sum total of city services a few decades ago, to the list of city services in 1937, according to information gathered for The Municipal Year Book 1937, to be released April 20 by the International City Managers' Association.

The 960 United States cities of over 10,000 population that were queried for their 1936 biographies for the Year Book, revealed that the past year was a busy one for taking on new duties. Most of the new activities were in the fields of public works, parks and recreation, and health.

Typical of the trend is the report of Mayor Harold H. Burton of Cleveland, O., that in 1936 his city established a division of crime prevention, a municipal collection of Cleveland art, a landscape architectural division in the department of parks and public property, and a central division of motor vehicle maintenance. Two new positions were established in the mayor's office: an assistant in charge of personnel and public relations, and an assistant in charge of relations with the federal government. Re-establishment of summer band concerts in the parks, substitution of incinerators for a garbage reduction plant, re-establishment of the division of street signs and house numbers, and the building of a new lake-front highway on filled-in land as a WPA project were also accomplished.

Indicative of services added by other cities are these: 36 cities reported the construction of a sewage disposal plant, airport, or a municipal auditorium; 20 others took on such public works activities as compulsory automobile inspection, smoke regulation and maintenance of farmers' markets.

Twenty-seven cities reported new activities or services in the field of

(MORE)

recreation. Berkeley, Calif., for example, undertook the operation of a yacht harbor, while Iowa City, Ia., constructed a community center. Seven cities reported new public health services--establishment of a city-county health unit, creation of the position of water chemist, inauguration of milk and dairy inspection, setting up of a division of public health nursing, organization of a health department clinic, and establishment of a bureau of social hygiene.

A number of cities reported installation of two-way police radio equipment, establishment of a traffic or safety commission, and installation of parking meters. Eleven cities listed such miscellaneous new establishments as a central purchasing department, an industrial commission, a bureau of fire prevention, and a municipal library.

The tendency to add new services and develop old ones, according to the Year Book, "is matched by a disinclination to abolish old services which apparently have proved their worth," (additional taxes notwithstanding). "Not more than a dozen reporting cities abandoned any service, and in two of these instances the function was transferred to the county or the state."

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.4: For Thurs., Apr. 8

Motor vehicles - Accidents

Traffic Tolls Fall with Accident Prevention Bureaus

Fifteen cities in the country are shooting at good marks for traffic safety by installing in their police departments standard accident prevention bureaus with a highly scientific slant. Arming the police officers assigned to these bureaus with steel measuring tapes, cameras, first aid kits and other prescribed equipment, they are already proving they can reduce hit-and-run tolls and other automobile accidents by systematically and scientifically collecting information to make possible the detection and conviction of those who violate traffic safety rules. Now many other cities are eager to copy.

Make-up and operating methods of a standard accident prevention bureau are described in a pamphlet just issued by the Safety Division of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, which since April, 1936, has, without charge, aided fifteen cities to establish such agencies.

The "standard" bureau, as distinguished by the IACP from the hundred-odd "substandard" municipal accident prevention agencies listed for the country, is one which is adequately manned and properly equipped, and which performs all duties of investigation. A city with 15 to 20 automobile fatalities annually, according to the pamphlet, should have one squad car with a pair of investigators for each shift of the day and a headquarters staff of two or three officers. For a few hundred dollars any city can buy its bureau's equipment, the most expensive item of which is the camera. Running expenses are low.

Officers who are assigned to the accident prevention bureaus are regulation policemen who have been properly trained, preferably in an established bureau where the most modern and scientific methods are used. The Safety Division of the International Association of Chiefs of Police provides facilities for this training, at present without cost to the cities. It is the duty of the accident police to investigate every accident that occurs in the city. They gather and preserve evidence of guilt, including photographs that are admissible as legal evidence. When the investigation indicates that a traffic law has been violated, the police themselves file a complaint against the suspect, to prevent his going free of punishment in cases where he satisfies his victim with mere settlement for damages. It is not considered the officer's duty to "get" somebody in each and every case, however.

Testimonials as to the effectiveness of the accident prevention bureaus now functioning come from officials of Columbus and Cincinnati, O., Miami, Fla., Saginaw, Mich., Bridgeport, Conn., Louisville, Ky., South Bend, Ind., and Syracuse, N.Y.

Reduction in hit-and-run accidents has been especially noted in several of these cities. In addition to bringing about the conviction of drivers guilty of contributing to accidents, the bureaus are active in accident prevention by aiding in enforcement of traffic laws, carrying on safety education and assisting traffic engineers on safety problems.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE 1937
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois Release No.5: For Fri., Apr. 9

Cities Modernize Assessment Procedure

Saving money in the long run and providing for more just tax assessments for citizens are the objectives of a number of American cities that are modernizing their assessing systems.

Fort Worth, Tex., according to the Assessors' News Letter, bulletin of the National Association of Assessing Officers, is one city in which a complete reappraisal of property is underway and modern assessing methods have been installed. This "modernization" includes new land maps for the entire city, a complete set of new land and building card records, and the preparation of a building manual. About 60,000 parcels of land will be reappraised in the survey, at a cost to the city of about 25¢ per parcel.

In Washington, D.C., a Commissioners Special Committee on Tax Delinquency, recommending improvements after a survey, has advised for the assessor's office a complete modernization and mechanization of the work, reduction of the tax review period from six months to three, discontinuance of the tax rolls by substitution of a modernized card record, and preparation of tax bills in a central billing office.

Among other cities which, during the past year, reported improvements in assessing methods are Chicago and San Francisco, both of which made machine installations; Yuma, Ariz., Bridgeport, Conn., Orlando and West Palm Beach, Fla.; Benton Harbor and Flint, Mich.; Greensboro, N.C., and Dallas, Tex.

"The initial expense of modernizing an assessment office may seem high but experience shows that in practically all cases where the work is done, the cost is more than justified by immediate and ultimate benefits that follow," says Albert W. Noonan, technical director of the National Association of Assessing Officers. "An increase in taxable property, better distribution of the tax burden, and a more accurate portrayal of the city's resources are the usual benefits which accrue."

Mr. Noonan cites the case of Bakersfield, Calif., where Assessor Dean R. Hurley reports that for the past five years there have been only two protests made by taxpayers against the assessments placed against them. Both of these occurred in 1935. The assessor attributes the unusual non-protest record to the modern system installed in 1932. Even though this resulted in a 26 per cent increase in assessed valuation, the equality of the values established was so satisfactory that not one protest was made that year.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
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1 9 3 7
Release No.6: For Sat., Apr. 10

Civil Service Assembly Conference Set for East

The mechanics of modern personnel systems will be discussed by those behind the scenes of civil service and merit plans of public employment when the eighth annual Eastern States Regional Conference of the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada is held in New York City April 22-24. Invitations to attend the conference have been sent municipal civil service officials and personnel officers of eighteen states, five Canadian provinces and the West Indies. The federal government will also be represented.

A wide range of subjects will be discussed, relating not only to the problem of selecting public employees on the basis of competence, but also to the day-to-day administration of a modern personnel program. Two days of the conference will be devoted to round-table or laboratory discussions of current problems, many of them new, faced by personnel administrators, according to announcement of Albert O. Allgeyer, Buffalo Civil Service Commission Secretary, who is general chairman of the conference. Dr. Leonard D. White, of the United States Civil Service Commission, will act as chairman of the first session, which will deal with the administration of civil service laws. In-service training for public employees will be discussed at this time.

Robert M. Johnson, president of the National Civil Service Reform League, will preside at a luncheon. Development of classification and compensation plans will be subject of another first-day session, over which L. L. Evans, chief of the Division of Classification of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, will preside.

Recruiting and examining candidates for public service and new methods of rating employee efficiency will be considered at the second morning's meeting, under the leadership of Dr. Istar A. Haupt, associate examiner of the N.Y. State Civil Service Commission. Dr. Morris Viteles, associate professor of psychology, University of Pennsylvania, will speak at the day's luncheon. An afternoon discussion on personnel organization, employee organizations and civil service legislation will be presided over by Miss Gertrude M. McNally, secretary-treasurer, National Federation of Federal Employees, Washington, D.C.

The Eastern States Regional Conference is one of three sectional meetings sponsored by the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada. Members of the Assembly are civil service commissions and other public personnel agencies and their staff members. Associate members are public officials and other persons and organizations interested in improved public personnel administration. The Civil Service Assembly is concerned not only with advising commissions in the technical details of administering civil service laws, but also with the development and wider application of sound personnel methods in the public service generally.

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PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1937
Release No.1: For Mon., Apr. 12

APR 10 1937

States Act to Combat the 'Commuting Criminal'

The national drive on crime which began a few years ago with public reaction to the Lindbergh kidnapping case, is now climaxed by interstate action against the "commuting criminal." Many of the legislatures in session this year already have passed the model bills designed to combat the Dillingers, Karpises, "Pretty Boy" Floyds and "Baby Face" Nelsons whose forays across state lines have made the nation's headlines.

The object is to catch and control the mobile criminal who, in one crime, may affect several states. Its sponsors contend that the model bills would cut away the legal underbrush which has hitherto hampered crime control.

According to the Council of State Governments, reporting for the Interstate Commission on Crime, seven states this year have approved all four crime control bills sponsored by the latter organization and endorsed by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Nine other states have adopted one or more of the model crime measures, with that on interstate parolee supervision proving the most popular.

Maryland, Montana, Oregon, New Mexico, Utah, Vermont and West Virginia have passed all four model bills in 1937, bringing the total number of states having the entire anti-crime program to nine. New York and New Jersey had enacted the laws last year.

Cooperation is sought among states of the Union to control criminals who go from one state into another to commit a crime or to hide away there; and to control criminals who escape from crimes committed in one state into another state. It is believed that this cooperation, to be effective, must take place along four major lines-- first, in apprehension; second, in extradition; third, in prosecution, and fourth, in punishment.

To this end, the Interstate Commission on Crime, working with the Council of

(MORE)

State Governments and the various Commissioners on Uniform State Laws, drafted acts on the following subjects:

1. The fresh pursuit of criminals across state lines.
2. The simpler and more effective extradition of criminals.
3. The removal of witnesses from one state to another to testify in criminal proceedings.
4. The supervision in one state of parolees from another state.

Fourteen states have adopted the interstate parolee supervision measure: Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, in 1936; Maryland, Montana, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Vermont, and West Virginia, this year. These states and Arizona, Virginia, Washington and Louisiana also have passed one or more of the other model bills.

Enforcement officials cite the recent kidnapping of a New Jersey state trooper as an example of the commuting criminal's activities. The trooper, who stopped a speeding motorist, found himself kidnapped and taken into Pennsylvania, where he was released. The car bore Michigan license plates. Its occupants were convicts escaped from an Ohio penitentiary. The day before they had robbed a Philadelphia store of $60,000 in jewelry. Two of the bandits later were captured in New York city, after a tear gas and machine gun fight. Five states thus wanted these men: New Jersey for kidnapping; Pennsylvania, for hold-up; Ohio, for prison break; Michigan, for car theft, and New York for assault with intent to kill (not to speak of the Federal government, for interstate kidnapping).

New Jersey, which has adopted the model acts, reports that two out of three fugitives from justice from other states now waive extradition proceedings. It is pointed out that the state's saving in time, trouble and expense is considerable, since 600 extraditions are handled each year between New Jersey and the other states.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE 1937
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois Release No.2: For Tues., Apr. 13

States See Way To Prevent Sales Tax Loss

Affirmation of a new principle in taxation is found in the U.S. Supreme Court's recent decision upholding validity of the State of Washington's 2 per cent "use tax" on out-of-state construction materials and supplies brought in to build the federal government's gigantic Grand Coulee Dam. The decision is expected to stimulate other states to consider this levy to complement the sales tax.

States with sales taxes for some time have been concerned about revenue losses suffered when residents make major purchases in neighboring states without a sales tax law. As a remedy several states have adopted the so-called use tax, levied on merchandise used in the state, upon which no sales tax has been paid, at a rate exactly equivalent to the sales tax rate.

Seven states-- Alabama, California, Colorado, Ohio, Oklahoma, Washington and Wyoming-- have general "use taxes," information furnished by the National Association of Assessing Officers shows; and at least six states-- Arkansas, Kentucky, Oklahoma, North Carolina, North Dakota, and West Virginia-- have motor vehicle use taxes.

Advocates of the use tax see it as a "compensator" for the sales tax which more and more states have introduced into their revenue systems. One of the leading objections of opponents to the sales tax has been that it drives citizens to go bargain hunting in neighboring states for their major necessities. Even though such neighboring states have sales taxes, they cannot tax sales by their dealers to residents of other states if the tax is a burden on interstate commerce. This has the effect of paralyzing local retailers who do not engage in a mail order business.

The Washington case illustrates the operation of the use tax. Heavy machinery and materials costing about $900,000 had been purchased in other states for the Grand Coulee Dam project on the Columbia River. Washington sought to tax contractors using this material 2 per cent of its cost, or about $18,000, under its use tax law.

This law set the 2 per cent levy with provisions that the purchase had been made at retail and that the tax did not include property subject to an equal or greater tax imposed by Washington or some other state. This act was passed to compensate for a 1935 levy of 2 per cent on every retail sale, and was designed to equalize the advantages out-of-state dealers might have over local ones.

Kentucky has adopted a motor vehicle excise tax of 3 per cent on the retail price to replace its repealed sales tax. Car buyers pay this tax when they first register their cars in Kentucky. Clerks collect the tax and account for it in the same way as for registration fees. The delivery price of new passenger motor vehicles with standard equipment is taken as the tax base.

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News Bulletin of
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1937
Release No.3: For Wed., Apr. 14

32,188 Get New City Jobs

Jobs are on the increase in municipal governments, and salaries are going up. A total of 32,188 people found new jobs in 794 city governments last year, according to statistics gathered for The Municipal Year Book 1937, to be issued April 20 by the International City Managers' Association. There were 0.5 per cent more employees per 1,000 people in 1936 than in 1935.

The real indication of a marked expansion of opportunities for municipal employment in cities of all population groups, according to The Year Book, is the ratio of new appointments to full-time employees. For all cities over 10,000 population, this ratio jumped from 5.7 to 7.0 last year. It varied directly with the size of the city, suggesting that greater employment opportunities lie in the service of the larger cities.

Reports on expenditures for salaries and wages in 1936 for all full-time and part-time employees, indicate that the average salary for 496,958 employees in 781 cities was $1,765. When compared with figures for 1934, the average annual salary in cities over 500,000 and in cities between 30,000 and 100,000 has increased almost $200, and in cities between 100,000 and 200,000, about $150. In cities between 200,000 and 500,000, however, the average has decreased $64.

The average number of municipal employees per 1,000 people in 1936 was 9.9. The employee figures verify a tendency noted in previous years that the number of employees per thousand increases with the size of the city. Cities over 500,000, for example, hired 12.6 employees per thousand and those from 200,000 to 500,000, over 10. Those from 100,000 to 200,000 employed 8.6; from 30,000 to 100,000, 7.8, and from 10,000 to 30,000, 6.6.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE 1937
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois Release No.4: For Thurs., Apr. 15

Residence Requirement Loses Weight as Civil Service Qualification

"Home-town boys for home-town jobs," a favorite slogan in public employment, may soon be heard no more. Two recent indications of the gradual breakdown of residence requirement as a qualification for state and local government jobs are reported in the NewsLetter of the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada.

In two widely separated parts of the country--New York State and Los Angeles County, Calif.--announcements of civil service examinations have specifically waived the usual residence requirement for candidates for certain positions.

The Los Angeles County Civil Service Commission and Bureau of Efficiency will hold its examination some time in April for a junior civil service examiner. College graduation within the past five years is required, with specialization in political science, public administration, economics, business administration or psychology, and one year's experience in public personnel work, for six months of which graduate work in one of these fields may be substituted.

The New York State Civil Service Commission, announcing an examination for the position of Associate Civil Service Examiner, explains that both residents and non-residents are eligible.

There have been other instances of the same sort recently, according to the News-Letter. Baltimore, Md., filling the position of manager of its Bureau of Assessments last month, waived residence as a requirement, as did the Los Angeles City School District, seeking applicants for positions in the personnel department. New York State, in an examination list just closed, followed the same course for the positions of assistant statistician, biologist, public health nurse, head tuberculosis hospital nurse and state planning research assistant.

A change of attitude generally toward residence as a prerequisite to appointment to municipal jobs is noted from cities queried for The Municipal Year Book 1937 by the International City Managers' Association. Forty-eight cities listed 138 non-residential appointments in 1936.

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News Bulletin of
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Release No.5: For Fri., Apr. 16

Cities Seek To Improve Police Departments

Cities large and small in an effort to strengthen their enforcement arms, are seeking modern systems of crime records, scientific traffic accident and crime prevention programs, efficient police communications equipment and adequate criminal investigation and identification facilities.

Recommendations for these improvements, among others, were made to Saginaw, Mich. and Greenwich, Conn. recently, by Public Administration Service, governmental consultants of Chicago, following a survey of their police departments.

Saginaw, city of 80,000, was found to be off the beaten path of big and continuous crime, because of its comparative isolation from other industrial centers. Robberies, burglaries and affronts against the public peace were the chief concerns of police. Greenwich, one-half the size of Saginaw, is located on the Boston Post Road. It therefore has a special problem in traffic, as well as offering strong temptation by its numerous large estates to depredations by New York and Boston criminals.

"Although each of these cities has particular problems that need special treatment, there are certain recommendations that could be made for both of them, and for most other cities of their size," says David L. Robinson, Jr., in charge of the Public Administration Service staff engaged in the surveys.

"Proper distribution of police strenth is essential," Mr. Robinson explains. "This means assigning men to the patrol, investigation, records and communications and other divisions, in the ratios found most effective under similar circumstances elsewhere.

"Keeping administrative records and statistics of crime matters and departmental work is another. An efficient record system can be used to check offenses committed and arrests made, to assist in identification, and to determine the effectiveness of the police department. Such a system will reveal unusual problems, assist in determining the number of men required on the force and the most effective beat layouts, and will furnish a follow-up system of control of all police business."

He adds that officers of a high type, obtained through an improved personnel system, and trained in present-day problems are equally as necessary.

As an example of new police problems, Mr. Robinson cites the installation of traffic accident prevention bureaus in Saginaw and Greenwich during the general police surveys. Set up under direction of the Safety Division of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, the bureaus will be manned by regular police officers trained to apply advanced detective techniques to traffic accident investigations and bring violators to justice, as well as to aid accident victims.

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Release No.6: For Sat., Apr. 17

River Cities Zoning Banks Against Next Flood

The now well-tested planners' tool of zoning may be utilized to help prevent recurrence of some of the recent flood losses suffered by Ohio Valley cities. According to Paul Oppermann, assistant director of the American Society of Planning Officials, at least one city has rezoned its riverside land and two others are contemplating it.

New Albany, town of of 23,000, on the Indiana side of the Ohio River, will turn its lowland into park area. Citizens who formerly lived near the waterfront are encouraged to resettle elsewhere in the town.

On the other side of the river, Louisville, Ky. is exploring the possibilities of zoning against the improper use of its riverside land. An amendment to Louisville's zoning ordinace would create a new type of district within which no new residential structures could be erected and no existing residential building could be structurally altered. The amendment's purpose is to forestall new building in some of the lowlands along the Ohio. Appropriation of a special fund has also been proposed with which to acquire a part of this area for park developments.

In Cincinnati a proposed zoning amendment submitted to the city council would prohibit the building of any type of dwelling in Industrial "B" and "C" zone districts, which include more than nine square miles of the city lying almost entirely in the area that was flooded.

Although the belief is growing that proper flood control is not a local matter alone, but one calling for the coordinated activities and the cooperation of federal, state and local governments, communities affected can do some things toward "getting out of the river's way," Mr. Oppermann says. They can discourage the use of the lowest, most flood-vulnerable grounds. Instead of locating new homes, new industries, railroads and highways where they are exposed to flood waters, there will probably be in the future a much stronger public sentiment for going to high ground with these new developments wherever feasible and for letting the river have a little more elbow room. There was a time when proximity to the water and the facilities of the "river trade" was a necessity to industry and commerce. Availability and increasing use of other means of transportation have brought new elements into the picture.

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Release No.1: For Mon., April 19

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Housing - legislation

New Housing Laws Still Lacking in 20 States

Forecasts that the next big boost to recovery will be a housing revival have been made freely since a great low-cost housing program was formulated at Washington. Although the Wagner-Steagall bill is still in the hearing stage, seven other housing bills have been introduced in Congress, indicating that the issue soon may come to a head.

Last week's Senate hearings emphasize the fact that 20 states have not yet legislated to enable their cities to carry on the housing projects contemplated in a nation-wide program.

However, among 28 states having such legislation, six (Arkansas, Georgia, Indiana, Maryland, North Dakota and Oregon) have acted since March 1, according to a tabulation by the National Association of Housing Officials. Housing authority laws are pending in several others. These laws empower cities to build low-rent housing projects, borrow funds and maintain these projects as provided under a program such as the Wagner-Steagall bill envisages. Legislatures in Kansas, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, Virginia and Wyoming adjourned without acting.

An equitable agreement on taxing low-rent housing projects is bothering administrators and legislators. The 51 projects developed under the Public Works Administration have not been subject to local taxation because they are owned by the Federal government. Service charges in lieu of taxes on these projects are being worked out in each community according to the benefits and costs involved. Under a decentralized program, local housing authorities will own projects. State housing legislation should therefore make some provision for dealing with the tax question. Some degree of tax exemption on projects is a necessary concession if rents are to be kept reasonable, most housing experts believe.

The six states that have just approved housing authority enabling laws have followed PWA advice in providing that service charges, though not mandatory, be permitted, and that in no case should such charges exceed the estimated cost to the community of furnishing the service. Eleven other states specifically exempt projects from real property taxation and ten specifically deny exemption.

News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.2: For Tues., April 20

Mun. govt - Yearbo

American Cities Come of Age

The coming of age of American cities and the emergence of their new public relationship with state and national governments is the theme of The Municipal Year Book 1937, an exhaustive resumé of city activities and statistical data, published today by the International City Managers' Association.

As pointed out in the lead article by C. A. Dykstra, former City Manager of Cincinnati and newly chosen president of the University of Wisconsin, half the nation's population lives either in, or in the shadow of cities of 100,000 or over. Five of these cities provide homes for more than 14,000,000 persons, and the growing importance of American cities is also found in the number of units concerned, a total of 3,165.

Mr. Dykstra finds this as "the great revolution in the United States, a vital change in the way of living and in the making of a living; a changed character in our national life. Contemplate one more fact," he says, "40 per cent of the American people live in 96 metropolitan centers which occupy slightly more than one per cent of the land area of the nation. In these centers are the workshops of the nation. In the 155 counties which contain the larger industrial cities we find 74 per cent of all industrial wage workers and 80 per cent of all salaries are paid in these centers, in which the value of goods produced is 70 per cent of the country's total."

The great scope of the Year Book makes it an invaluable source book for municipal officials, students of municipal affairs and editors. The information, of a type not available elsewhere, is descriptive and factual -- a record of what is and not what ought to be. Hundreds of public officials and others aided in the compilation.

The Year Book is divided into these general classifications: Municipal Administration, Governmental Units, Municipal Personnel, Municipal Finance, and Sources of Information. One entire section, devoted to financing relief and recovery, includes analyses of various federal agencies written by specialists in the field.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1937
Release No.3: For Wed., April 21

Personnel, Public - Conference

Civil Service Conferees to Meet Thursday

Modern problems of personnel administrators, increased as civil service rapidly forges into a strong position in government, will be debated at the three-day Eastern Regional Conference of the Civil Service Assembly opening next Thursday (April 22) in New York City. Civil service officials and personnel officers of eighteen states and Puerto Rico are expected to attend, as will representatives of the national governments of the United States and Canada.

States scheduled to be represented include Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Massachusetts, Maryland, Maine, North Carolina, New Jersey, New Hampshire, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, Vermont, and the District of Columbia.

Recent activity on federal, state and municipal levels has roused widespread public interest in the merit system and its application. Eleven states, nine counties, three special districts and 411 cities now have their own merit system agencies, figures supplied by the Civil Service Assembly show. Two states, Arkansas and Tennessee, have passed civil service laws since the turn of the year, and other states still in legislative session are likely to follow in the near future.

Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia and James E. Finegan, President, New York City Civil Service Commission, will welcome delegates. A discussion on the report of President Roosevelt's Committee on Administrative Management in favor of a Civil Service Administrator, will be led by Dr. Leonard D. White, of the United States Civil Service Commission.

Luncheon meetings will be conducted by Robert L. Johnson, President, National Civil Service Reform League, and Dr. Morris Viteles, Associate Professor of Psychology, University of Pennsylvania.

Other sessions and chairmen will be: Classification and Compensation, L. L. Evans, Chief, Division of Classification, United States Department of Agriculture; examination procedure, Dr. Istar A. Haupt, Associate Examiner, New York State Civil Service Commission, and personnel organization, Gertrude M. McNally, Secretary, National Federation of Federal Employees.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.4: For Thurs., April 22

Interstate commerce

Many States Test Fair Trade Acts

Predictions have been frequent since the Supreme Court's recent ruling upholding the labor relations act, that efforts would ensure to revive the principles of the N.R.A. Such a program, if it were formulated, again would involve the "prevention of unfair trade practices in interstate commerce."

Those still-existing state recovery acts which were set up under the old N.R.A. program to draft codes of fair competition for intra-state business, are mostly unenforced, information furnished by the National Association of Attorneys General, an affiliate of the Council of State Governments, shows. Several of these state acts, including those of Colorado, Idaho, New Mexico, West Virginia, Wisconsin and Wyoming, were scheduled to expire this year. Nevada recently repealed its recovery act. However, several states have been active in current sessions with legislation designed to regulate commerce within their own borders.

A few of the so-called fair trade laws have been declared unconstitutional, and others are under fire. Judicial decisions in various states have been in conflict. In 1936, for instance, New York's act was declared unconstitutional by the Court of Appeals; while the fair trade acts of California and Illinois were upheld in their high courts, whose decisions were affirmed by the U. S. Supreme Court.

Since January, twenty-one states have passed bills having to do with price-discrimination, price cutting, secret rebates and other practices considered to be "for the purpose of injuring competitors and destroying competition." Several laws authorize resale price agreements applicable to owners of trade marked merchandise and their distributors.

The following states in legislative session this year have enacted fair trade regulations: Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Minnesota, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, Washington, West Virginia and Wyoming.

By the end of 1936, legislatures in these states had authorized retail price agreements: California, Illinois, Iowa, Louisiana, Maryland, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania, Virginia and Washington; and California, Delaware, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, North Carolina, and Oklahoma had laws relating to price discrimination.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1 9 3 7
Release No.5: For Fri., April 23

Insurance, Unemployment - Legis

43 States Pass Jobless Insurance Laws

Out of 1937 legislative sessions has come an increase in the number of states providing for unemployment compensation that forecasts a possible 100 per cent record for the forty-eight states this year, the American Public Welfare Association announced today.

Insurance of workers against unemployment is now provided by 43 states and the District of Columbia. The five states without laws are Delaware, Florida, Illinois, Missouri and Nebraska. In Missouri a bill has been recommended by the House for final passage. Nebraska, Illinois and Delaware are considering bills. Florida's legislature, which convened April 6, also is weighing an unemployment compensation measure.

In addition to the eight state legislatures that have enacted, fourteen have amended their unemployment compensation laws since January 1. These amendments are in general designed to iron out administrative difficulties and improve the workability of this part of the social security program.

The Federal Social Security Board has approved the four new laws of Arkansas, Wyoming, Montana, and Georgia, bringing the total of laws sanctioned to 41. The new laws enacted by three other states--North Dakota, Nevada and Washington--are being considered by the Board for approval.

Hand in hand with the unemployment compensation acts goes provision for state administered employment services, in cooperation with the United States Employment Service established under the Wagner-Peyser Act in June, 1933. At present 39 states are affiliated with the U.S.E.S. and it is anticipated that by July, 1937, all 48 states will have entered into cooperative arrangements. If Congress enacts the bill recently passed by the House, $1,500,000 will be made available to the states to carry on their employment services through June, 1938, and the U.S. Employment Service office will receive $777,000 for administrative expenses. Apportionments will be made to states on the basis of $3,000,000, utilizing the 1937-38 appropriation and unexpended balances.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1937
Release No.6: For Sat., April 24

Motor vehicles - Regulation

"Non-Fixit" Traffic Tickets Found Successful

Syracuse has abolished the traffic ticket "fix" and local motorists like it! It's been nearly three years since having a friend at city hall could get a Syracusan off a traffic charge, and, according to Police Officer A. J. Leahey of the Syracuse Accident Prevention Bureau, few complaints are heard.

Syracuse is one of several cities employing some form of the "non-fixit" traffic system which originated in Minneapolis. Other cities using the plan include Chicago and Evanston, Ill., San Francisco, Spokane, Milwaukee, St. Paul, Tucson, Providence, Utica, Denver, Kansas City and Seattle.

Describing the Syracuse system in the Police Chiefs' News Letter, official bulletin of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Officer Leahey explains:

> The theory of the non-fixit traffic ticket is that every ticket must be accounted for and some disposition made, even though the case results in a dismissal or suspended sentence. Two types of tickets are used, both made out in triplicate, and numbered serially. The first is a notification tag for minor violations which lists the offenses and a schedule of fines for them. The violator can plead guilty and mail his fine to the Traffic Violations Bureau, thus avoiding appearance in court, provided he has had not more than three violations during the previous 12 months. The second form is a summons used for speeding, reckless driving, intoxicated driving, defective brakes, etc. One copy of every traffic ticket goes to the driver, one is for the Accident Investigation Bureau, and the third, a tissue, is kept in the book of tickets that the officer turns in to the comptroller when he applies for a new book.

A "delinquent" traffic offender receives a form letter calling the ticket to his attention. If he does not reply, a court summons is served on him. If this fails, a warrant is issued and the violator is brought in and booked. Newspaper publicity is not stinted on those who go so far in their disregard, and according to Officer Leahey, it usually results in calling the other delinquents to order. Fines from out-of-town drivers are collected by form letter. Figures for 1936 indicate that 90 per cent of the "moving" violations in Syracuse resulted in convictions.

Cities having accident prevention bureaus installed by the Safety Division of the International Association of Chiefs of Police are urged to follow the triplicate traffic ticket procedure, which is also advised in the model traffic ordinance approved by the National Conference on Street and Highway Safety. The success of the triplicate system is found in the fact that it is audited periodically and the results of the audit made a matter of public record.

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News Bulletin of
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Release No.1: For Mon., April 26

APR 23 1937

States and Cities Seeking Way to Meet Industrial Strife

A new era of industrial relations with added union activity is generally foreseen as a result of the Supreme Court's recent validation of the Wagner National Labor Relations Act. Forecasters are uncertain whether interruptions to production caused by the sit-down strike or the more recent "slow-down" technique, will be stopped. Whatever results, both state and city governments show increasing interest in the problems of industrial strife and its abatement.

The revived Wagner labor relations act finds two states-- Utah and Wisconsin-- with miniature copies of the law. California, New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania are considering similar measures. Wisconsin's statute, signed by Governor Philip LaFollette, has just gone into effect, and Utah will be operating under its new law by July 1. Ohio had a bill before the legislature last week.

Wisconsin's measure, providing a state labor relations board, concentrates on intra-state industrial conditions, as the Wagner Act does on the inter-state conditions in the national scene. Wisconsin's statute went into effect April 1.

Two large cities, Philadelphia and Toledo, have "peace boards" operating for conciliation between capital and labor in the local field, the magazine Public Management, official organ of the International City Managers' Association, points out. Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia has just appointed such a board for New York City and Newark's Commission has just created by ordinance a Municipal Labor Relations Board.

Toledo's Peace Board has 18 members; five named by the central labor union, five by the chamber of commerce and eight selected at large. Representatives at large include two judges, two attorneys, a Catholic monsignor, a Jewish rabbi, a merchant and the county relief director. In March last year, Toledo took over financing the board, authorizing the Mayor to fill any vacancies. Members serve without compensation, but a full-time director is employed.

The Mayor's Labor Relations Board in Philadelphia was designed to carry on the work of conciliation between employers and employees. The personnel consists of an equal number of representatives of labor and industry, with an impartial chairman. "Almost 100 per cent success" is reported in handling Philadelphia labor disputes.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
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Release No.2: For Tues., April 27

How Shall The Trailer Be Taxed?

Trailers - Taxation

The trailerite, polishing up his house-on-wheels as Spring calls from the open road, is still one big question mark to officials who run the business of state and city governments. What bothers them just now is how to tax the trailer owner his share of the costs of government in proportion to what services he gets from it when he occupies a trailer camp.

The problem of taxing the gasoline nomad is tackled in a revised survey, "The House Trailer: Its Effect on State and Local Government," published by the American Municipal Association, and prepared with the collaboration of the American Public Welfare Association, the American Society of Planning Officials and the National Association of Housing Officials.

It is figured that the trailer vacationist gets utility services such as water supply, garbage collection and sewage disposal, not to speak of police, fire and health protection and the use of general community services such as streets, parks and public buildings. The permanent trailer family, in addition, will take advantage of education, relief and voting facilities.

Question No.1-- How shallthe trailer be assessed? On the basis of property value or on "benefits made available per diem?" The survey finds the former impracticable, the "benefits" plan the only alternative, observing that the "computation of the value of those benefits is a most difficult task.... Most cities," it is added, "will undoubtedly hesitate to assess the seasonal trailerite for his full share of government costs, inasmuch as he constitutes tourist trade."

Question No.2-- Who shall collect this tax, and how shall it be collected? The first proposal on collection is to substitute a state-collected, locally-shared tax for the above-mentioned service charge collected by local units. This is not considered feasible. The other, to collect directly from the person who runs the trailer camp, and let him pass it on in his fees, is regarded as more workable.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
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Release No. 3: For Wed., April 28

The "Joneses" of Averagetown, U.S.A.

Cities and Towns

In the average city the average citizen earns $1,300 a year if he works in a factory and $1,350 in retail stores... four out of ten persons of marriageable age are unwed... one in ten is widowed or divorced... 15 per cent of wives are employed outside the home... two out of three families have no child under ten years of age... about one-third of the children of high school age are not in school... there are generally only three or four persons in a family, including boarders and relatives... the average renting family pays $28 a month for its dwelling.

These and many other facts concerning Mr. Average Citizen and his urban habitat are revealed by William F. Ogburn, professor of sociology at the University of Chicago, in "Social Characteristics of Cities," a pamphlet just published by the International City Managers' Association.

Averagetown, U.S.A., a city of about 50,000, finds its inhabitants in the North paying an average of $5,000 for owned homes, and $4,600 in the South. Fifty per cent own their homes in the North, thirty-five in the South. There is a greater discrepancy in rents, the Southern renter paying $15 a month, as against the Northerner's $28. This is due to the large numbers of negro homes of small rentals in the South.

The average wages of $1,300 a year for factory workers and $1,350 for retail store employees include payments to women and young persons as well as to men. The average tax for each person over fifteen years old is $43 a year.

The "Joneses" usually live in a house to themselves, only one in ten families living in apartment houses. It is estimated that every other family in the North owns a radio, only one in every four in the South.

Most citizens of the average city are old enough to hold down a job, but not so old as to be shelved, Professor Ogburn finds. They are between 20 and 50 years of age. The average city has 62 per cent as many young as it has people of working age, and 28 per cent as many old. Its population is largely made up of middle-aged persons. Women apparently like cities better than men, for there are only 97 men to every 100 women in the average city.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE 1937
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois Release No.4: For Thurs., April 29

States Improving Unemployment Insurance Laws

States are intent on changing their unemployment compensation laws where improvements seem possible. Since January 1, fourteen state laws have been amended by legislatures, and eight new laws passed.

Abandonment of employee contributions, coverage of employers of one or more workers and a simpler administrative procedure in closer conformity with the Social Security Board's draft bills are the tendencies noted in an unemployment compensation legislation analysis made by the American Public Welfare Association.

A growing split in viewpoint is found among unemployment insurance authorities as to the size of firms covered. While most laws thus far passed cover only employers of eight or more workers, the recent trend is to include employers of one or more. Twelve state laws now have the latter provision, an increase of nine since Dec.1, 1936.

The trend toward abandoning employee contributions has continued. None of the eight new laws provides for employee contributions, and two of the old laws have been amended to abolish such contributions. Only eight of the 44 laws passed to date will require employee contributions after 1937.

Looking to administrative simplification, one change has been the widespread shift from the time-loss to the wage-loss principle in determining the amount, duration and qualifications for benefits. This means speedier benefit disbursements and a reduction in the enormous record-keeping burden both for employers and the administrative agency. In New York alone an annual saving of $500,000 in administrative costs is expected from this move.

Other specific developments are:

(1) A change in the eligibility requirements that will make it somewhat more difficult for workers to qualify for benefits. Three calendar quarters instead of four are now specified as the period in which the minimum qualifying amount of wages must have been earned.

(2) Increased duration of benefits. Over half the 44 laws now set the maximum duration of benefits at 16 weeks, while in 3 states it stands at 20.

(3) Delegation of authority to the unemployment compensation administrator to make reciprocal arrangements with the other states and the federal government about migratory and interstate workers. Twenty-nine states now make this provision, 13 having done so since January 1.

(4) Almost universal acceptance of the necessity for selecting personnel on a merit basis. Only 5 of the 44 laws have no provisions for merit selection.

(5) Integration of unemployment compensation with other labor functions, and a growing predominance of the full-time executive director instead of the commission type of administration.

(6) An increasing acceptance of the pooled fund system with merit rating as an adequate compromise between the divergent viewpoints represented by the straight pooled and individual employers' reserve systems. At present, 30 out of the 44 laws are of the pooled fund, merit rating type.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.5: For Fri., April 30

San Francisco Votes Health Insurance for Employees

([illegible] Health

San Francisco voters, recently approving provisions for machinery by which city and county employees can establish their own compulsory health service system, made way for one of the first employee health plans to be administered with the aid of municipal government. The San Francisco system, if it is carried through, will be somewhat similar to the Ross-Loos Clinic in Los Angeles County, according to information from the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada. The clinic provides a non-compulsory service for both private employees and for the governmental workers who initiated the plan.

With the health service charter amendment passed by the people and ratified by the state legislature, it is now up to the employees of the city and county of San Francisco to start the machinery.

The charter amendment was put on the ballot by the San Francisco Federation of Municipal Employees, after their special committee had studied the problem for two years. Whatever specific plan is submitted for operation within the next six months, the health service is designed to give all city and county workers protection without cost to the taxpayers. Employees who participate in the retirement plan, including teachers and employees of the board of education, are to be members of the health service system. The only exemptions will be those who follow a recognized religious sect or organization that depends for healing upon prayer; and those whose salaries exceed $4500 a year or who, through fraternal organizations or other means, have arranged for adequate medical care.

Included in the care provided for ill employees are services of a physician, surgery and hospital care, nursing, medicines and x-rays. Members of the system will have the right to select their own duly licensed physician or surgeon, dentist, nurse or hospital. An administration board of nine members selected by the employees will decide the amount to be paid monthly by members of the system to finance it. The San Francisco County Countroller will deduct this amount from their pay. Charges are expected to be about $2.00 per month.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
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Release No.6: For Sat., May 1

Are Cities Prepared for Building Boom?

Cities by and large are being caught short-handed of proper regulations to avoid possible bad effects of the predicted building boom, Walter H. Blucher, executive director of the American Society of Planning Officials, said today. Although the legal tools are available in many cases to guard against unwise development of real estate, specific enforcement measures are often either lacking or are ineffectually administered, he found.

Mr. Blucher cited a recent study of the New England Regional Planning Commission which reported that only 210 cities in the region have planning boards, and only 60 of these have actually drawn up city plans. Massachusetts and New Hampshire are the only states in the group providing for effective municipal control over subdivisions, and only 60 communities in these states have adequate control, the report showed. Building codes are in force in but 131 towns and cities, and only 168 of the 1,500 communities are zoned.

This situation is repeated in other sections of the country, Mr. Blucher said. There are five states still without any kind of city planning enabling laws, and five others require special action of the legislature to give a city the right to draw up a plan. Laws permitting subdivision control exist in virtually all the states with city planning enabling acts; but it is safe to say that very few cities either effectively regulated the real estate subdividing of the last boom period or are taking steps to do so with the recent signs of building.

To be well prepared for materialization of the forecast boom, cities should look to these points, according to Mr. Blucher:

1. Regulation of subdivided areas, both the old, undeveloped ones of the last boom period and the new crop. Lots offered for sale should be of adequate size; the "development" must be supplied with sewers, watermains, pavements and sidewalks free of outstanding special assessments; must have proper transportation facilities to industries and downtown section; must have access to proper school buildings, parks and recreation areas; and must fit in with the general plan of the city, both economically and physically.

2. Modernized building codes. In only a few cities have the building codes that were drawn up many years ago been brought up to date. Availability of new materials is one good reason for changing the old building codes. Guarding against hurried and poor construction that springs up during boom periods is another.

3. Effective land-use regulation. Although 1200-odd cities in the country have zoning laws to protect against misuse of the land, these laws are frequently not adequately administered, and the regulation consequently is ineffective.

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News Bulletin of
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1937
Release No.1: For Mon. May 3

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$550,000,000 Estimated as New City and State Relief Budget

States and cities will probably be called upon to shoulder a greater share of the relief burden, observers generally agree, if the Administration's new economy program leads to a determined slash in relief expenditures. Particularly will those local and state governments sponsoring Works Progress Administration projects be expected to make larger contributions.

The $1,500,000,000 relief budget recommended by President Roosevelt marks the climax of the tendency of the federal government gradually to change its sphere of responsibility, handling the employables through work relief and leaving direct relief of unemployables to the localities. However, if limitations are set on the number given work relief under W.P.A., the cities and states must absorb whatever remainder of "employables" is left under this shrinkage.

It is roughly estimated that within the next fiscal year, local and state governments would spend about $400,000,000 in direct relief and also put up $150,000,000 toward W.P.A.

Final estimates on the additional numbers of relief workers that the states and localities must take up cannot be given because W.P.A. reductions are not yet set, and private industry will doubtless absorb some of the unemployed.

Before 1933, relief was left largely to local and state governments. Then, as the depression deepened, Congress created such agencies as the Federal Emergency Relief Administration and the Civilian Conservations Corps, and began, with the aid of states and cities, to take responsibility for financing relief. From January 1933, through December, 1935 a total of $4,096,574,293 was spent by all governmental units, according to a survey in the "Municipal Year Book, 1937", just published by the International City Managers' Association.

Of this amount the federal government put up $2,904,007,125, or 70.9 per cent; the states, $523,391,802, or 12.8 per cent, and the cities, $669,175,366, or 16.3 per cent.

(MORE)

At the end of December, 1933, there were 2,631,080 families in the country receiving emergency relief, a total of 11,671,639 persons; in December, 1934, 4,459,263 families, or 20,058,149 persons; in December, 1935, 2,084,141 families, or 8,914,517 persons, and by August of last year this number had reduced to 1,065,000 families or 4,430,000 persons.

In November of last year, the Federal contribution to a total general relief obligation of $484,570,000 was $30,910,000 or 6.4. per cent; the state contribution $265,970,000 or 54.9 per cent, and the cities' $187,690,000 or 38.7 per cent.

Two-thirds of the nation's relief expenditures in recent years has been centered in ten industrial states, the Year Book's section on "Financing Relief and Recovery" points out. Half the federal work relief funds and two-thirds of all available funds have been expended in the fifty largest cities, including about 25 per cent of the population. Industrial urban population is more vulnerable to unemployment. In addition, living costs are higher, requiring greater relief allotments, and the cost of giving employment to a city group is higher than in rural areas.

In ninety-three cities over 100,000 population 1,414,062 persons got relief in December, 1933, or 45.9 per cent of the U.S. total. In December, 1934, 2,243,256 persons, or 42.5 per cent of the total were on relief in these cities, and in December, 1935, 1,427,287, or 54.5 per cent. By June, 1936, the number was reduced to 811,745, or 47.1 per cent of the total.

By February, 1937, the number receiving general federal emergency relief in the 93 largest cities was 754,937. The total amount extended to cases was $22,463,635.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
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Release No.2: For Tues., May 4

Taxation, conflicting

Drive Revived Against Conflicting Taxes

The new economy program at Washington, with its accompanying prospect of some sort of future revision of the tax structure, revives the movement to tackle the old problem of conflicting taxation, long supported by states affiliated with the Council of State Governments.

Possibility of action in this direction is foreseen by Henry W. Toll, executive director of the Council, and secretary of the Federal-state Tax Revision Council. For several years the states, working through their Interstate Commission on Conflicting Taxation and the Tax Revision Council, have sought to solve the question of duplicating taxation among the Federal and state governments. The states now seek the cooperation of the Treasury Department to this end.

President Roosevelt in his recent budget message, said new taxes would be recommended only in the event treasury experts are unable to boost receipts from existing taxes.

News reports from Washington say further that the federal government intends to keep out of state and local revenue fields even if new tax revenues later prove to be required. Naturally the states would favor such a policy, Mr. Toll said, but he added that it might be difficult to develop new tax sources not already relied upon by local and state governments.

Reports from the Interstate Commission on Conflicting Taxation (Chairman, State Senator Seabury C. Mastick, of New York) and the Tax Revision Council (Chairman, Representative Robert L. Doughton) indicate some of the existing federal-state conflicts in the various fields of taxation.

Surveys show that the same tax base is now tapped by both Uncle Sam and the state governments on an average of over 16 instances in each of the 48 states.
Eight tax levies are major sources of revenue for both federal and state governments.

(MORE)

These eight are: Personal income and corporation taxes; inheritance and estate taxes; amusement taxes; tobacco taxes; alcoholic beverages and gasoline taxes.

"During recent years the need for revenue in each level of government has been so great and the emergency so pressing that taxes have been levied with little or no regard for conflicts," Mr. Toll asserted. "The federal government added the undistributed profits tax, while the number of states imposing income taxes rose from 28 in 1935 to 32 in 1937. The number of states imposing cigarette and tobacco taxes increased from 15 to 20, and those imposing chain store taxes rose from 15 to 21. Now there is talk of the federal government's broadening the income tax base or levying a sales tax."

The federal gift tax illustrates the result of this free-for-all policy of taxation, Mr. Toll commented. The gift tax has induced transfer of large amounts of property, thus reducing estates, and consequently estate taxes. Since the states do not share in the gift tax, but do share with the federal government proceeds from the estate tax, an important source of revenue to the states has been considerably reduced.

Three proposals to eliminate existing tax conflicts and prevent them in future are receiving careful study. They are: That the tax field be divided between the states and the federal government; that state taxes be allowed as an off-set to federal taxes in duplicated levies, and that where duplication exists the federal government collect the tax and allocate to the states their shares.

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PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE 1937
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois Release No.3: For Wed., May 5

Welfare Officials to Discuss Hospital Care for Needy

Hospital care for the needy is emerging as one of the most pressing problems confronting public welfare administrators. Question marks in their minds are: Who will pay the costs? What facilities are available? And what relations should be established between hospitals and welfare authorities in handling such public charges?

These and other questions of hospitalization for persons unable to pay for it will be discussed in the American Public Welfare Association sessions at the six-day National Conference of Social Work starting May 23 at Indianapolis, Ind. Dr. Michael Davis, Chairman, Committee on Research in Medical Economics, will act as chairman of the May 27 meeting on public welfare and medical care. Speakers will be: Dr. G. Andrew Agnew, Director, Department of Hospital Service, Canadian Medical Association; Dr. Claude Worrell Munger, President, American Hospital Association, and Dr. Joseph W. Mountin, of the United States Public Health Service.

Governmental general hospitals in the United States (excluding those provided by the Federal government for veterans and other special groups) make up 12 per cent of the hospitals and provide 23 per cent of the beds. Non-governmental hospitals consstitute 83 per cent of general hospitals and furnish 68 per cent of the beds. Of the country's 3,073 counties, 43 per cent having a population of 44,000,000, have no government hospitals at all. In 296 counties having 46 per cent of the population, non-government beds make up two-thirds of the total provision, governments beds, one-third. However, the latter are generally concentrated in a limited number of centers.

The capital investment in general hospitals is about $2,000,000,000 (with a total of about 450,000 beds), an average of between $4,000 and $5,000 a bed. Of course, the large share of this investment is in non-government hospitals.

Public funds generally are used for hospital care of the needy where the locality has a public agency. In those many communities where government hospitals are insufficient to handle the load, public welfare officials generally recommend that public agencies pay voluntary hospitals on the basis of service actually rendered. Use of tax funds from local governments to pay voluntary hospitals for care of public charges is a widespread policy.

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[illegible] Director, [illegible] of Hospital Service, Canadian Medical [illegible]

[illegible] Manager, [illegible] American [illegible] Association, and Dr. [illegible], of the [illegible] Public Health Service.

[illegible] total general hospitals in the United States (excluding those [illegible] Federal government for veterans and other special groups) make up [illegible] per cent of the hospitals and provide 25 per cent of the beds. Non-governmental [illegible] 75 per cent of general hospitals and [illegible] 75 per cent of the beds. [illegible] 4,000,000 [illegible] hospitals [illegible] per cent of the population. [illegible] beds make up two-thirds of the [illegible]

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PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.4: For Thurs., May 6

"Trailer-town of the Future" Poses Housing Problem

If the home on wheels becomes a popular form of permanent housing, American cities may have to change their traditional building, health, and other municipal regulations, or devise special regulations for the trailers. This implication in the use of trailers, on or off wheels, as year-round dwellings, is emphasized in the revised edition of "The House Trailer: Its Effect on State and Local Government," just issued by the American Municipal Association, Chicago.

The American Public Welfare Association, the National Association of Housing Officials and the National Society of Planning Officials also collaborated in the report.

Present state and local health, housing and building codes would enable most municipalities to ban trailers used as permanent dwellings, according to the report. Most mobile homes, for example, cannot fulfill building code requirements specifying 285 cubic feet per occupant per room and 600 cubic feet per person for sleeping.

For those officials and communities wishing to encourage trailers as permanent dwellings, however, a planned course of action is necessary, the pamphlet points out. If the trailer movement is allowed to run unchecked to its logical conclusion, four major types of trailer communities are conceivable, each offering unique administrative problems.

1. Privately-operated camps for privately-owned trailers are likened to cooperative apartment houses, wherein dwellers purchase rather than rent their apartments, and are supplied with utilities and other services by the apartment operator who is answerable to the city for the general conduct and living conditions of his tenants. Since the trailer community, therefore, is little more than a horizontal cooperative apartment, it is reasonable to assume that the method of enforcement effective with cooperative apartments will be proportionately effective in trailer-town.

2. Privately-operated camps for corporation-owned "to rent" trailers are seen as similar to low-rent apartment houses or tenements. The camp operator purchases his land, installs utility facilities, then buys and locates an appropriate number of trailer houses ready to rent. Control over living conditions by the camp operator would be more effective than in the case of the tenement operator because the former is likely to be on the grounds most of the time.

3. Municipally-operated camps for privately-owned trailers, besides bringing in revenue, have an added advantage in giving the authorities direct control over living conditions in the trailer communities. Before establishing such camps, however, cities are advised to investigate their state laws concerning permission to enter the low-cost housing business.

4. Municipally-operated camps for corporation-owned "to rent" trailers are considered a "remote possibility."

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1937
Release No.5: For Fri., May 7

Strikes

Police Chiefs Study Ways To Meet Sit-Strikes

Police chiefs of many cities have been forced to add a new page this year to their manuals of procedure, as a result of the sit-down strike. Development of a policy on the matter, according to the Police Chiefs' News Letter, official bulletin of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, has been careful and slow, due to legal and other complications.

Early in the strike period, most police chiefs made no move to evict the sit-strikers. Recently, however, police in New York, Detroit, Chicago and other cities have conducted sit-downers from owner's property in several instances. In Chicago this was made possible by an Illinois statute which provides as much as six months in jail or a fine up to $500 for depriving an owner of the "use and enjoyment" of his property. Informed of the existence of this statute, and the responsibility of police to enforce it, Chicago sit-down strikers left the premises peaceably in 24 of the 25 cases in which the police took action. New York and Detroit police departments, similarly, have used forcible eviction methods only in exceptional instances.

"The sit-down strike has some aspects which make it one of the most difficult of all types of strikes for the police to handle," says the News Letter. "To begin with, the police, if eviction is decided upon, are faced with the task of evicting strikers from employers' property instead of preventing them from occupying the property.... Secondly, if the police attempt to evict sit-down strikers, the burden of making the first move rests with the police, whereas in the traditional type of strike it rested with the strikers.... Third, the task of evicting sit-down strikers is often too big a job for small police departments. This means that there is a temptation to augment the police force by swearing in special deputies; that outside police or national guard assistance must be secured; or that the police may have to attempt eviction and, failing in it, may lose standing in the eyes of the public."

In general, says the News Letter, police chiefs agree that special deputies or vigilantes should not be sworn in. Chief Ray E. Allen of Toledo, which has one of the several municipal industrial peace boards in the country, says: "The police cannot prohibit the employing of watchmen or guards by companies for duty on their own property. But I am decidedly against deputizing civilians or company guards for service on the streets in the vicinity of strikes."

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.6: For Sat., May 8

Personnel, Pub.

Way Open For Job-holders Records Service

Opportunity for any state or local governmental unit or department to install a comprehensive record system on job-holders and at the same time give employment to white-collar WPA forces is made available by a recently approved project of the Works Progress Administration, according to the News Letter of the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada.

The legislative body, chief executive, budget or personnel authority or other agency legally authorized to set up such records is to be the local sponsor for the project, specifically described as "the preparation of a new personnel record system." Necessary workers for this job are a records supervisor, data collectors, clerks, stenographers and typists; office equipment is simple.

Installation of a comprehensive personnel service records system will make it possible to furnish legislative, executive and financial officers the information needed to determine the positions to be authorized, and their number and kinds. The officer maintaining the personnel records can prepare personnel and pay roll summaries at intervals for the information of officials and the public. Administrative, financial and personnel officials will have a concise statement of significant facts regarding each officer and employee for use in initiating and passing upon reemployments, promotions, demotions, transfers, pay adjustments, layoffs, suspensions, retirements and dismissals.

Announcing this project, WPA authorities point out that one of the requirements of sound personnel administration is a record showing the principal facts on the service of each employee. Although such a record is simple in form and easy to maintain, few governmental agencies have one set up.

The need for these studies in such governmental units as counties was recently expressed by H. Eliot Kaplan, Executive Director of the National Civil Service Reform League, who declared: "It is amazing to learn how many counties have no or little conception of the number of their employees or the extent of their annual payrolls for personnel service."

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1937
Release No.1: For Mon., May 10

P. A. C. H.
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MAY 7 1937

States Rush to Pass Laws As'37 Sessions Near End

Legislation

Covering one of the briskest law-making periods in years on the most important subjects, the states approach the end of the 1937 legislative sessions, having passed an average of 250 bills apiece. Current momentous shifts in the politico-economic and social welfare fields are sharply reflected in major legislation, a round-up by the Council of State Governments shows. Labor, social security and taxation lead the van, with conservation, housing, planning and education close on their heels. Uniform anti-crime bills received widespread sanction.

Out of forty-three state legislatures convening since January, sixteen are still in regular session. They are: California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Texas and Wisconsin. Recent adjournments include: Delaware, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Minnesota, Rhode Island and Vermont.

The Council of State Governments' survey shows the following legislative action:

LABOR--Acts governing state labor relations were passed in California, Nevada, Utah and Wisconsin. Sit-down strikes were banned in Vermont, while peaceful picketing was legalized in Utah. Minimum wage laws for women were passed in Nevada and Ohio, and maximum hours for women-laborers were reduced in North Carolina, Ohio and Vermont.

SOCIAL SECURITY--Unemployment compensation laws were newly enacted or amended in 23 states, bringing the total of states covered to 45. New old-age assistance laws were passed in 11 states and previous laws amended in 7. Dependent children were aided by laws enacted or broadened by amendment in 15 states. Needy blind were provided for by 9 legislatures. Retirement systems for all state, county and municipal employees were provided for in Ohio, and many other states enacted laws permitting the establishment of various local systems.

TAXES--Outstanding feature of tax legislation is the attempt to retain the emergency taxes enacted during the depression. Arkansas and North Dakota reenacted their sales tax laws, due to expire this year, both increasing the rate from 1½ to 2 cents. Alabama and South Dakota also hiked their rates. Kansas went into this tax for the first time, while Iowa, Ohio, West Virginia and Wyoming continued temporary sales tax laws. Alabama, Arkansas, Kansas, North Carolina, Utah and Wyoming adopted "use" taxes to supplement their sales taxes, so that goods bought in other states becomes taxable when consumed inside their boundaries. Georgia, Montana, North Carolina, North Dakota and West Virginia were states that increased their income tax rates. In Ohio, for the third successive time, the House passed and the Senate defeated an income tax bill.

Chain store taxes were enacted in Georgia, Oklahoma and South Dakota and increased in Montana. New taxes on beer and wine were levied in Georgia and Kansas and higher liquor taxes got a legislative okay in five other states. A new cigarette tax was enacted in Vermont, while Georgia doubled the levy on this

(MORE)

item, lowering the cigar tax. At least six states enacted public utility taxes.

Severance taxes were changed or newly enacted in South Dakota, Utah and New Mexico, but met with defeat in Washington. In Arizona an estate tax replaced the inheritance tax, and in North Carolina a gift tax was adopted. West Virginia removed charitable bequests from the taxable list.

PUBLIC FINANCE--Bills providing for enforcement of tax collections were approved in Pennsylvania and North Dakota, although the trend of remitting penalties and interest started during the depression still holds sway. In eight states bills were approved providing for either partial or total cancellation of tax penalties.

CONSERVATION--Lively legislative activity in this field brought model soil conservation acts to at least 16 states. In addition, water conservation, irrigation, drainage, wind erosion, flood control and power districts of many kinds were authorized.

HOUSING AND PLANNING--Local housing authorities were authorized by legislation in Arkansas, Georgia, Indiana, Maryland, North Dakota, Oregon and Vermont. Official state planning boards have been approved in Delaware, Georgia and Nebraska, bringing the total number of "official" boards to 39. Maine's legislature voted to discontinue its planning board.

EDUCATION--Teacher retirement systems were established in five western states--Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah and Washington--but the proposal was killed in Wyoming. Free textbooks were provided in Georgia, Nevada and North Carolina, and the proposal for them killed in Kansas. School equalization funds were provided for in Georgia, Kansas and Utah, with the state assuming financial reponsibility for a seven-month school term in Georgia.

STATE ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES--Authorization for administrative changes in state governments has centered largely around the establishment or reorganization of welfare or social security boards. Tennessee, however, made a sweeping change with the complete reorganization of the executive department. Connecticut has many reorganization proposals still on the fire.

CRIME--One or more of the four uniform crime bills drafted by the Interstate Commission on Crime were adopted by 22 states. These bills cover extradition, removal of out-of-state witnesses, close pursuit of criminals across state lines and reciprocal supervision of parolees. They have been adopted as follows: Arizona, Delaware, Maryland, Montana, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Utah, Vermont and West Virginia, four each; Rhode Island, three; Louisiana, Kansas, Minnesota and North Carolina, two each; Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Virginia and Washington, one each.

A "Lindbergh" kidnap law was adopted in Georgia, New Mexico, Ohio and Oklahoma. North Carolina established a State Bureau of Identification; Utah, a State Department of Justice. Georgia established a Public Safety Department to supervise its new highway patrol, and North Carolina, Ohio and Vermont increased the size of their highway patrols, while Kansas provided for a new one.

LOTTERIES, GAMBLING, RACING--Arkansas legalized "bank nights" in theaters, and taxed the prizes. Maine legalized and taxed bookmaking; Montana approved pastime card games and punchboards, but defeated bills to license gambling. Vermont licensed games of skill; North Carolina outlawed slot machines. Georgia defeated a racing bill and Maryland killed the whippet and greyhound racing bill. Colorado legalized pari-mutuel betting.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.2: For Tues., May 11

Kentucky Reports on Its New Finance Set-up

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The new centralized Department of Finance in Kentucky, established under the state's Governmental Reorganization Act of 1936, is exhaustively described in the "Handbook of Financial Administration, Commonwealth of Kentucky", issued today. Hailed by Governor A. B. Chandler for its complete analysis of the way the state's finances are administered, the volume outlines in detail the financial procedures that were developed and installed by Public Administration Service of Chicago in cooperation with state officials.

This apparently is the first time any state has issued such a comprehensive document dealing with financial administration. Other states have prepared outlines of their accounting methods, but Kentucky's new handbook represents a pioneer effort to issue what is in effect an operating manual on state financial operations. The work already has aroused much interest among experts in public financial administration, and is expected to be widely used in university and college courses in this subject.

All basic facts relating to the complex handling of Kentucky's finances are gathered in this one volume. The handbook covers not only the functions of the Department of Finance, but also those of the Department of the Treasury, Auditor of Public Accounts and the Department of Revenue, written in as non-technical a manner as possible.

In addition to informing the various fiscal officers and employees on prescribed procedures, the book is designed to afford the public an understanding of how state finances are handled. The numerous details of accounting are covered, as well as such general subjects as the state's fiscal structure, the nature and purpose of the accounting system, state indebtedness, organization of the Department of Revenue, and the various sources of the state's revenue.

The intricacies and weaknesses of the county fee system as it affects the state government are analyzed in one section of the volume. It is expected that this report will be used by the state in its program for proposed revision of the county fee system.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1 9 3 7
Release No.3: For Wed., May 12

Personnel, Public - Legislation

Civil Service Action Near Record in States and Cities

An all-time record for the adoption of civil service and merit system provisions for state and local governments may result in 1937, if the current rate of acceptance continues, according to reports received by the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada. Among the states, Maine has just acted, and Connecticut may be close to follow.

Maine has provided for an improved employee system in its governmental offices by creating a state personnel board and a director of personnel for the classified service. Hereafter, appointments to and promotions in the state service are to be made according to merit and fitness, from eligible lists prepared on the basis of examinations. The new law provides also for training employees after they are in service.

Maine is the twelfth state to adopt a merit system law, the third this year. Tennessee and Arkansas were first to act. In Connecticut, the legislature sent an approved civil service bill to the Governor last week. Other states still in session that have such bills under consideration are Michigan, Nebraska, New Hampshire, Pennsylvania and Texas.

At the county level, employees of Montgomery County, Maryland, which contains several suburbs of the nation's capital, will in the future be subject to rules and regulations of the Employment Commissioner of the state. This is the first county in the state to take advantage of the personnel services available to local jurisdictions since passage of a merit system law in 1920. Little effort has been made, in general, to extend to the more than 300,000 county employees in the country any of the modern methods of personnel administration. Only eight counties have their own machinery for personnel control.

Since January 1, in the city field, these have been among developments:

South Dakota has authorized the establishment of civil service in all cities in all departments of government. Kansas and North Dakota have legislated similar measures, for their larger cities. West Virginia cities of 5,000 and over, and all Washington cities have received legislative permission to put their police departments under civil service. Monroe, Mich. voted in spring elections to do likewise. Knoxville, Tenn., Wheeling, W.Va. and Tucson, Ariz. are other cities that will soon have civil service for most of their employees.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1937
Release No.4: For Thurs., May 12

Assessors' Group to Confer on Tax Problems

Assessment problems of states, cities and rural areas will be discussed at the southwest regional conference of the National Association of Assessing Officers in Oklahoma City, May 31--June 1. Governor Ernest W. Marland is to open the two-day conference. Assessing officers are expected to attend from eight states--Arkansas, Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, Louisiana, Oklahoma, New Mexico and Texas.

John A. Zangerle, of Cleveland, O., president of the association, will respond to the Governor's address of welcome. H. L. McCracken, chairman, Oklahoma Tax Commission, will preside over the first morning's sessions, at which speakers will be: John R. Seaman, chairman, Colorado Tax Commission, and L. D. Smith, Garfield County Assessor, Enid, Okla., talking on "Helpful Supervision of a Tax Commission;" Theodore M. Jacobs, Chaffee County Assessor, Salida, Colo., on "Problems in Building Appraisals."

At luncheon, Albert W. Noonan, technical director, National Association of Assessing Officers, will outline the program of the association.

Walter H. Miller, Jackson County Assessor, Kansas City, Mo., will preside at the afternoon's sessions. Speakers will be C. P. Hale, Sedgwick County Assessor, Wichita, Kans. and Miss Jessie M. McFall, Monroe County Assessor, Clarendon, Ark., on "The Assessment of Tangible Personal Property;" and W. T. Macy, Assessor and Collector, Ft. Worth, Tex., on "The Scientific Assessment of Fort Worth." Delegates will tour the Oklahoma oil fields in late afternoon.

Round table breakfasts on the second day on urban, rural and state tax problems will have as chairmen Walter C. Ayers, Shawnee County Assessor, Topeka, Kans., George A. Moore, Jefferson County Assessor, De Soto, Mo., and W. S. Childers, Arkansas Corporation Commission, Little Rock, Ark. Charles A. Armstrong, County Clerk and Assessor, Columbus, Kans., presiding in the afternoon, will introduce these speakers: A. E. Anderson, Beckham County Assessor, Sayre, Okla. and Jim Bodine, Oklahoma County Assessor, Oklahoma City, on "Administering Exemption Laws;" A. G. Hammet, Parish Assessor, Shreveport, La., on "Techniques in Securing Equalized Assessed Values;" Ronald B. Welch, Research Consultant, National Association of Assessing Officers, on "The Assessment of National and State Banks."

Raymond D. Thomas, Dean, Oklahoma A. and M. College, will speak at the conference banquet on "The Need for Higher Assessment Standards." Roy A. Weems, of the Oklahoma Tax Commission, will preside.

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[illegible] M. Miller, [illegible] Kansas City, Mo., [illegible] president of [illegible]

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.5: For Fri., May 14

How 3 Typical Cities Beat Debt Bugaboo

Debts municipal

No sleight-of-hand performance, but actual well-planned debt and expenditure control measures are putting cities with depression-deflated pocketbooks back on their feet financially, according to the experiences of three typical American cities related in the current issue of Municipal Finance, magazine of the Municipal Finance Officers' Association of the United States and Canada.

Hackensack, New Jersey, residential city of 28,000; New Rochelle, New York municipality of 54,000, and Oglesby, Illinois town of 4,000, are the cities. Failure to collect taxes and special assessments against property whose development was begun in boom times; failure to bond capital improvements on a long-term basis at a reasonable rate of interest; the mounting burden of relief loads; inability to borrow as a result of poor tax collections, and just plain poor accounting are listed by these municipalities as the various causes for financial distress before they changed their ways.

Hackensack's big problem, relates City Auditor C. Robert Featherstone, was a large floating debt. In July, 1933, when the council-manager form of government went into effect, the city had approximately $1,000 in current cash to meet $56,000 in checks drawn but not issued, and teachers had gone unpaid for four months. The local banks were owed $657,000 on temporary loans and tax notes, the city's sinking fund, $125,000, the county, $455,000 in past due taxes. After salaries had been cut and scrip issued to pay school teachers, a comprehensive plan to refund all temporary loan bonds then outstanding--$2,408,000--was drawn up. The plan called for the exchanging of these bonds for general refunding bonds with a schedule of maturity payments running from 1935 through 1949, the maturities so spread out as to cause an even annual tax levy. Estimated savings to the city by carrying out this plan amounted to from $25,000 to $30,000. To finance needed improvements in street and

(MORE)

sewerage systems, borrowings were necessary, and in April this year the city floated a $580,000 bond issue with a maturity schedule of ten years to fund all existing tax notes.

Hackensack is now on a strict cash basis, with all operating expenses covered by current levies. The budget has been balanced, and with a reassessment project under way, the city expects to worry about no further financing for some years to come.

New Rochelle, N.Y., needing extra money to pay current obligations and interest on bonded debt in 1933, found bankers' doors closed against pleas for loans, says City Auditor Edward J. Glick, because the city's uncollected taxes stood at 30 per cent. An Emergency Finance Commission working with the fiscal officers decided that a "cushioned" budget was the answer. In the 1934 budget the "cushion" consisted of a re-levy of uncollected 1931 and 1932 taxes amounting to $1,475,000. This procedure was repeated in subsequent years.

If the taxes are all collected, more cash is produced, consequently, than is actually necessary to operate the city for the current year. This goes into a "Current Reserve Account," which by December, 1936, contained $1,706,404.28 in cash. The plan is to peg the rainy day account at $2,000,000, which may be reached this year. Taxpayers who pay promptly have had to bear the burden of this reform, but the cost to them is little compared with the results. The city is on a cash basis, and if the $2,000,000 surplus fund is preserved, it can stay there during any depressions to come. Beginning with 1938, when it is expected that further levies for the "cushion" can be eliminated, tax rates can be lowered and finally made uniform. The city is no longer dependent upon financial institutions for current loans.

The chief trouble with Oglesby, Ill., according to City Clerk Edward Hand, was that for thirty of its thirty-four years of existence it had suffered from haphazard bookkeeping and slovenly accounts collection. Oglesby's "New Deal" was begun in 1931, when $14,000 in tax anticipation warrants were paid off and a rule laid down to issue no more. The fiscal year and the date of tax collections were harmonized, and a strict pay-as-you-go policy set up. Now nodepartment spends more than the budget calls for. Detailed budgets are prepared for each city department, so that any commissioner or citizen can be told in a minute what has been spent at any time in the fiscal year by reference to a distribution ledger. Annual independent audits are made of both the clerk's and the treasurer's accounts. Among results: the city's funded debt has been reduced from $62,500 to $27,000. Taxes have been lowered from $45,000 to $25,000 annually.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.6: For Sat., May 15

States Face Task in Filling New Social Security Jobs

Personnel Public [illegible]

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The thousands of new positions created in social security administration confront the states with the knotty problem of getting the best qualified candidates for the new jobs. With or without general civil service laws, the states on the whole are accepting the principle that public welfare administrators and employees, both state and local, must be selected on a merit basis, which means devising a sound, standard testing apparatus.

Recent examinations in Indiana and West Virginia for administrative and social service positions in state and county welfare departments exemplify the kind of tests now being devised, according to Public Welfare News, official bulletin of the American Public Welfare Association. The Association assisted in giving the examinations.

In both states analyses of duties and responsibilities were prepared as bases for statements of job specifications. Included were: title of the position; a careful outline of the scope of duties and responsibilities; statement of necessary educational and experience qualifications; statement of the personal factors--age, health, physical condition and personality; statement of special knowledge, skills and abilities required.

From the procedures used, the American Public Welfare Association makes three significant points:

1. Candidates should be recruited from all possible sources, not only from within the state (For the Indiana jobs examinations were held at New York City and Chicago as well as Indianapolis.) Notifications should be mailed to lists of all potential candidates, circulated among interested agencies and posted on bulletin boards of universities and such likely places.

2. In every instance where the merit system is applied to a personnel program, competitive tests should be developed. These tests should be both written and oral and should record special aptitudes or capacities, knowledge of the field and other important factors.

3. One oral examination should test the qualities of the applicant--his social philosophy, attitudes and related psychological factors. These might well be thirty-minute interviews with an examining board.

In an attempt to provide basic data for the classification of positions in the entire public welfare field, the American Public Welfare Association, in cooperation with other agencies, is undertaking a national study of job qualifications. Several months' work will be required on the study before results will be released.

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News Bulletin of
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1937

Release No.1: For Mon., May 17

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Cities Seek National Airport Program

The tremendous growth reported by the aviation industry in air passenger and express traffic and announcement of the forthcoming new 80,000-pound planes spur the efforts of the country's municipalities in their drive for a uniform planning and development of airports. The cities have a real stake in the program. Thirty-six of the nation's average-sized cities have invested $54,198,614 in their airports, and expend annually $1,550,087 to maintain them.

The immediate necessity for a national program sharply defining the authority and responsibility of city, state and Federal governments in the future airways program was discussed at last week's Chicago meeting of the executive board of the American Municipal Association. The A.M.A., federation of the state leagues of municipalities, represents nearly 7,000 cities.

Information thus far compiled in a study by the Bureau of Air Commerce of the Department of Commerce reveals that municipal funds spent for ground facilities in the development of air commerce probably will exceed all other expenditures for the purpose. Airports still are far from self-supporting. A survey shows that Cleveland, O. has the highest capital investment in its airport, $5,800,000; and Medford, Ore., with $128,134, the smallest, of thirty-six average cities. Of the cities studied, the Pittsburgh-Alleghany port has the highest yearly operating expense, $237,283; and Springfield, Mo. the smallest, $6,485.

The function of an airport is viewed as covering several phases: first, its local use; second, its service in interstate commerce to a population in an area sometimes ranging from 50 to 400 miles in radius; third, its value for national defense purposes.

To show the added demands on airports, A.M.A. presents the following data gathered from reports on the aviation industry:

1. Passenger traffic increased approximately 23 per cent last year, and express

(MORE)

traffic about 100 per cent.

2. The jump in pilot licenses indicates large future increases in numbers of planes in use.

3. Airplane mileage flown has increased about 200 per cent.

4. Frequency of schedules has shown a marked rise.

5. Airplanes in construction are to weigh 80,000 pounds, and the industry is designing planes to weigh 160,000 pounds.

6. Airmail has shown increases which will undoubtedly be much greater with changes in rates, etc.

The cities want to know: How will the costs of the imperative airport improvements be distributed so that each governmental beneficiary of the airport system pays its fair share? And how will the airports be governed? The general consensus seems to be that the states should have local supervision and policing of air transportation, and the designing, construction and maintenance of airports; but that it is essential that the Federal government, with its licensing powers of ship, pilots and airports for the National Civil Airways and interstate service, first make complete plans to which the states and municipalities may gear their plans.

The American Municipal Association report shows that the following widely-scattered cities exemplify the improvement needed in most municipal air terminal facilities:

CHICAGO-- This airport, second busiest in the U.S., with traffic density as high as 200 arrivals and departures a day, has its operations confined to one-quarter section with an extension of the east-west runway to approximately a mile. The city faces necessity for immediate expansion to handle increasing traffic and meet government regulations.

NEWARK, N.J.-- Needs immediate expanding of area and more hard surface runways. A part of the work has been started under W.P.A.

CAMDEN, N.J.-- Serving Philadelphia, this field may be inadequate for future operations, and construction of new air terminal is foreseen.

LOUISVILLE, KY.-- Hard surfacing of runways needed.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND.-- Runways need lengthening.

ALBANY, N.Y.-- Further expansion and runway construction necessary.

ST. PAUL, MINN.-- Future expansion needed to meet government requirements.

CLEVELAND, O.-- Further development necessary, supplementing W.P.A. work.

EL PASO, TEX.-- Hard surfacing necessary.

JACKSONVILLE, FLA.-- Further expansion and removal of obstructions needed.

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M.-- Entire new field necessary.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.2: For Tues., May 18

23 States, As N.Y. Acts, Now Grant Women Jury Rights

Two more states-- Connecticut and New York-- have just enacted laws permitting women to serve on juries; a proposal for such action has been approved by the Illinois House, and bills are still pending in Florida and Massachusetts, information furnished by the Council of State Governments shows. Twenty-three states, the District of Columbia and Alaska now grant women the right to jury service.

Dismissing the argument that women make poor jurors because they are emotional and lack logical judgement, Connecticut aligned itself with those eight states that call women for jury service on an equal basis with men-- by compulsion.

The New York act just approved by Governor Herbert H. Lehman gives women the privilege of declining a jury call if they wish. (In New York, a mandatory bill had previously been defeated by the Senate.) The Illinois bill has many exemptions, tacked on by its opponents, so that all "mothers, girls under 25 years of age, school teachers, expectant mothers, and those who have the care of children and of sick or infirm," would be excluded.

With the addition of Connecticut, the nine states that demand jury service from women are: California, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Michigan, New Jersey, Ohio and Pennsylvania, reports the Council of State Governments. States that permit women to make their choice between serving or not serving are: Arkansas, Delaware, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Minnesota, Nevada, New York, North Dakota, Oregon, Rhode Island, Utah, Washington, Wisconsin, the District of Columbia and Alaska. Statutes in North Carolina and Vermont are not explicit and have not yet had judicial interpretation. North Carolina refers to jury eligibles as "persons" and Vermont employs the term "legal voters."

The first state to enable jury service on the part of women was Michigan, which made the pioneering step in 1915. Maine and Utah were among other states early to grant the privilege. Colorado, one of the first states to grant women suffrage, only last November voted down a referred proposal on woman jury service. Before the current action on the subject, it has been ten years since any state swung over to authorizing women jurors.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.3: For Wed., May 19

Central States Set Chicago Conference on Civil Service

With two new state civil service commissions--Arkansas and Tennessee--recruiting their staffs and many new merit system plans being organized in local governments, special interest attaches to the Central Regional Conference of the Civil Service Assembly in Chicago, May 27-29. Discussion of the "shop problems" of those who administer state and city civil service and merit systems will feature the three-day program, which will bring together delegates from all states between the Alleghenies and the Rockies.

The opening session will be given over to a roll-call tabulation of the important problems and accomplishments of each of the represented organizations during the past year, according to announcement of Donald J. Sublette, Detroit Civil Service Commission, chairman of the conference. G. Lyle Belsley, executive director of the Civil Service Assembly, will discuss the program of the Chicago headquarters office of the Assembly. Other technical problems selected for round-table discussion include the installation of new public personnel agencies; test material in pictorial form; improvements needed in test procedures, and the value of classification.

The proposed reorganization of the Federal personnel program recommended in the Report of the President's Committee on Administrative Management will be the topic of a dinner meeting.

Members of the Civil Service Assembly meeting for the Central Regional Conference will represent civil service commissions and other public personnel agencies from the mid-section of the country. Associate members are public officials and other persons and organizations interested in improved public personnel administration. The Civil Service Assembly is concerned not only with advising commissions in the technical details of administering civil service laws, but also with the development and wider application of sound personnel methods in the public service generally.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1937
Release No.4: For Thurs., May 20

Planners to Hold 4-Way Conference in Detroit

City, county, state, regional and national planners from all corners of the country will gather in Detroit for the three-day National Planning Conference starting June 1. Participating organizations will be the American City Planning Institute, the American Planning and Civic Association, the American Society of Planning Officials and the National Economic and Social Planning Association. This is the first time these four planning agencies have conducted a conference jointly.

Sponsors for the conference are: The Detroit City Plan Commission; the Michigan Planning Conference; the Detroit Housing Commission; the Detroit Board of Commerce; the Detroit Real Estate Board; the Michigan Society of Architects; the Engineering Society of Detroit, and the Detroit Federation of Women's Clubs.

Principal divisions and chairmen of the sessions will be: "Metropolitan and County Planning," Alfred Bettman, President, American Society of Planning Officials; "Critique of State Planning," Miss Elizabeth M. Herlihy, Chairman, Massachusetts State Planning Board; "National Planning," Frederic A. Delano, Chairman of the Board, American Planning and Civic Association; "Why Regional Planning?," with James H. Langley, Chairman, New Hampshire State Planning and Development Commission, discussing problems of New England, and Roy F. Bessey, Consultant, Pacific Northwest Regional Planning Commission, discussing the Pacific Northwest.

Governor Frank Murphy, of Michigan, and Mayor Frank Couzens, of Detroit, will participate in the community dinner Wednesday evening. Among speakers on the various sessions will be: L. Segoe, Director, Research Committee on Urbanism, National Resources Committee; Earle S. Draper, Director, Land Planning and Housing, Tennessee Valley Authority; Russell VanNest Black, President, American City Planning Institute; Warren J. Vinton, Chief of Research, Division of Suburban Resettlement, Resettlement Administration; Jacob Baker, Assistant Administrator, Works Progress Administration; Will W. Alexander, Administrator, Resettlement Administration, and Frederick Osborn, Population Association of America.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.5: For Fri., May 21

Police Cite Advances in Criminal Identification

From the "camera-eye cop," once relied upon to snare the roving criminal after one glance at a Rogues' Gallary picture, to modern fingerprinting and retinal records, motion pictures and hair microscopy, the science of criminal idenitification has made seven-league strides during recent years. The International Association of Chiefs of Police Yearbook 1936-37, first publication of its kind, lists these among the newly-developing tools for criminal catching:

1. Increased acceptance of fingerprinting and installation of the single fingerprint files, duplicates of which are collected by the Federal Bureau of Investigation in the Department of Justice in Washington, D.C. Over six million and a half such prints are now recorded. Wider education of identification officers in uniform interpretation and classification rules is possible through the annual "fingerprint" schools conducted by the F.B.I. and sponsored by the International Association for Identification.

2. Photographing of evidence to bring the scene of the crime to the courtroom. Pictures that show how a safe was rifled, how a burglar gained entrance, how a dead body was found, and signs of incendiarism are all valuable for this purpose. They are also useful to detectives and members of the uniformed force, because most criminals develop an individual technique that is recognizable upon repetition.

Motion picture photography also is coming into use in the education of policemen. A list of police training films owned by the League of Kansas municipalities and rented to police chiefs of cities in the state, includes pictures of interior investigation at scene of crime; report of criminal operating methods; handling evidence; use of the polygraph (lie detector), and a study of the operation of car thieves.

3. Microscopical and chemical analysis of the hair. Race of a criminal is easily determined by this means of identification. The subject's age can also be determined. Powder burn tests of the hair sometimes are used to establish whether a death by shooting is murder or suicide.

4. Eye-identification. This identification is based on the theory that the permanent blood vessel patterns in the retina differ in each individual. There is a difference even between the right and left eye of the same individual. The pattern of the veins is used for classification.

Despite increasingly expanded activities, police administrators are not satisfied with the present use of modern identification methods. Their self-criticism, according to the Yearbook, is that there is insufficient coordination among police departments, detective bureaus and the bureaus of identification. In many cities, all persons arrested are not fingerprinted because personnel is inadequate, says one police officer. Another criticism is made that the full value of identification records, on a national as well as a local basis, is not understood.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.6: For Sat., May 22

5 New Cities Join Council-Manager List

Greenbelt, Md., first of the Resettlement communities to go under a council-manager charter, leads the growing list of cities adopting this form of government by recent legislative permission or local sanction. The charter of the Maryland settlement, which is near Washington, D.C., has been approved by the state legislature, bringing the score of new council-manager cities since January 1 to five, reports the International City Managers' Association.

Besides Greenbelt, these are: Middlebury, Vt., pop. 2,003; Moultrie, Ga., pop. 6,789; Alameda, Calif., pop. 35,033; and Orange, Va., pop. 1,078. Alameda, which adopted the manager plan originally in 1917, seventeen years later placed under separate boards of commissions the control over certain departments previously under the manager, hence lost its council-manager standing. In April, 1937, Alameda returned to the manager plan by adopting a new charter. Orange, Va., adopted the council-manager plan after operating under it by ordinance for the past year and a half. In addition, Maine's legislature since January 1 enacted council-manager charters for the towns of Bridgton, Dover-Foxcraft, Fort Kent, Milo, Norway, and Old Orchard Beach. If these charters are approved by the annual town meetings, the number of council manager cities in Maine will be 23.

According to the current issue of Public Management, journal of the International City Managers' Association, Thomasville, Ga., is holding a special referendum this month on adoption of the plan, while legislation enabling cities to set up such a charter is under consideration in Florida, Massachusetts, Missouri, and Pennsylvania. Governor George H. Earle of Pennsylvania has appointed a 15-member city charter commission to draft a new charter for Philadelphia, where the manager-plan has been sought for some time. Movements for the plan are also under way in Ogden, Utah; Leominster and Springfield, Mass.; Marion, Va.; Ashland and Columbus, O.; Rochester, N. H.; Edna, Tex.; Clinton and Fort Dodge, Iowa; Columbia, Tenn.; Tulsa, Okla.; Plainfield, N.J., and Raleigh, N.C. The smallest of these cities is Edna, Tex., pop. 1,735; the largest, Columbus, O., pop. 285,000.

Two cities--Binghamton, N.Y. and Cape May, N.J.--recently voted to abandon council-manager government.

At the end of 1936 the council-manager form of government was in effect in 457 cities and 7 counties. All the counties and 438 of the cities are in the United States. At the end of 1920, twelve years after the first such action in 1908, there were 159 council-manager cities in this country; by 1925, 298 cities; and by 1930, 386. The largest number of adoptions was in 1921, when 47 cities voted the plan through charter or ordinance. There are council-manager cities in 36 states. Michigan has 46; Virginia, 42; Texas and Florida, 37 each; California, 35; and Oklahoma, 29 manager cities and counties.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
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Release No.1: For Mon., May 24

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Dr. [illegible]

30 States Joined in Interstate Cooperation Movement

With those legislatures still in session rapidly nearing adjournment, a survey shows that interstate cooperation has been one of the most popular movements among the states in 1937. Eighteen states have acted to join the Council of State Governments, their central agency for fostering interstate cooperation, since January 1, making a total of 30 now affiliated with the Council.

Commissions on interstate cooperation, through which the states solve problems affecting two or more of them, have been set up by statute this year in these states: Arkansas, Colorado, Georgia, Indiana, Minnesota, Montana, New Mexico, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee, West Virginia, Wyoming and Nebraska. Legislatures of Maryland and Oklahoma have adjourned, but the commission bills have been passed and await only the Governors' signatures. Iowa and Vermont have taken action by resolution.

Of the fourteen states still in session, nine have measures establishing the machinery for cooperation pending. They are: California, Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, Texas and Wisconsin. So it is possible that by the end of the legislative season, thirty-nine of the forty-eight states will have acted to solve problems between bordering states, or among groups of states. This movement has been meteoric. Slightly more than two years ago, such commissions existed in only two states, New Jersey and Colorado, 2,000 miles apart.

Social security, crime and conflicting taxation are among the questions of nation-wide significance which states are tackling through this machinery. New regional problems, such as those of the dust bowl and the flood basin, will come within the scope of the cooperation movement, with representatives of the various state commissions joining to draft plans to meet their common problems. Individual questions or misunderstandings between two neighboring states also can be solved by

(MORE)

this method.

During their two-year existence, the council and commissions have sponsored national and regional conferences on social security, flood control, crime control, highway safety, conflicting taxation, milk control, conservation, liquor control, parks and labor. States concerned have four choices toward settlement of any problem -- by adoption of interstate compacts (such as that for Boulder Dam); enactment of uniform or reciprocal statutes; adoption of uniform or reciprocal administrative practices and regulations, or simply by personal cooperation between governmental officials and staffs of various states.

Nation-wide commissions of the Council of State Governments are: The Interstate Commission on Conflicting Taxation; the Interstate Commission on Crime; the Interstate Commission on Council Development. Regional commissions are: The Interstate Commission on the Delaware River Basin; the Interstate Commission on the Ohio River Basin. Interlevel commissions are: The Interlevel Commission, and the Tax Revision Council.

Harmonious action in national questions is illustrated spectacularly by state action this year on the uniform crime bills advocated by the Interstate Commission on Crime. Through interstate cooperation, the following crime control action is possible in the following states:

FRESH PURSUIT-- Organized police of one state can now "freshly pursue" and capture an escaping criminal across the boundary lines of Arizona, Colorado, Delaware, Louisiana, Kansas, Maryland, Massachusetts, Montana, Nebraska, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, and New Hampshire.

EXTRADITION-- Extradition procedure has been unified and the return of criminals has been simplified by and between Arizona, Colorado, Delaware, Kansas, Maryland, Montana, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, Utah, Vermont, Washington, West Virginia and New Hampshire.

WITNESSES-- Necessary witnesses in criminal proceedings can now be obtained from, and at the request of, any of the states of Arizona, Colorado, Delaware, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, Rhode Island, Utah, Vermont, West Virginia and New Hampshire.

PAROLEES-- Arrangements for interstate supervision of parolees instead of letting them wander about unsupervised, have been made by Arizona, Colorado, Delaware, Indiana, Illinois, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, Utah, Vermont, West Virginia, New Hampshire and New Mexico.

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News Bulletin of
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1 9 3 7
Release No.2: For Tues., May 25

Welfare Officials to Discuss Interstate Nomads

A shining trailer, complete with all modern gadgets and conveniences, stands today in a conspicuous place in the Murat Temple at Indianapolis. It carries this sign: "Symbol of The Interstate Problem." Presence of this trailer also signifies that the American Public Welfare Association meeting today (May 25) through Thursday at the National Conference of Social Work in Indianapolis, will tackle at one of its sessions, the question of the interstate transient.

End of depression does not mean an end to migration in this country, where the privilege of moving from one place to another has always been an inalienable right. However, with relief still a big problem, states and cities find that they must deal with the migratory needy. Two social factors aggravate this problem--the increased mobility of transportation, as indicated by the trailer, and the lack of coordination in laws governing the settlement of dependent persons.

William J. Ellis, of New Jersey, is chairman of the A.P.W.A. Commission on Interstate Problems which will hold a breakfast meeting tomorrow (May 26). State and city public welfare officials from all over the nation will gather for this session to thresh out the perplexing interstate problems presented by new public assistance legislation, migratory laborers and trailers.

Mr. Ellis also is chairman of the Interstate Commission on Social Security, which works with the Council of State Governments. This commission brought a resolution at the recent Third General Assembly of the Council in Washington, D. C., in favor of the Uniform Transfer of Dependents Act. This act, which will be discussed at Indianapolis tomorrow, has been recommended to the states by the Committee on Uniform State Laws, the American Bar Association and the American Public Welfare Association.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1 9 3 7
Release No.3: For Wed., May 26

[illegible] – Conn.

Connecticut Re-adopts Civil Service

For the second time in its history, Connecticut is seeking better government personnel through a merit system bill just signed by Governor Wilbur L. Cross, putting nearly all the state's 7,000 employees under classified civil service. Connecticut's is the fourth state civil service act to be passed this year.

Tennessee, Arkansas and Maine legislatures have approved similar bills and there are indications that Michigan and New Hampshire may do likewise, Florida, Pennsylvania and Texas legislators are also considering civil service measures. According to the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada a baker's dozen of states now have provided for merit systems of public employment-- 44 per cent of them by 1937 legislative action. Of this year's crop of measures, Tennessee's and Connecticut's become effective at once; Arkansas' will go into effect July 1, and Maine's on July 24.

Connecticut's previous act, in force for eight years, was repealed in 1921 by vote of the legislature. Originally one of a series of bills for reorganization of the executive department of the state government, the Connecticut civil service law provides for a Department of Personnel administered by a personnel director. The director, appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate, will be selected from a list of eligible persons recommended by an advisory personnel committee made up of 10 of the state administrative department heads. In accordance with the trend of the new acts, the personnel director is put in equal authority with heads of other state departments.

Maine's new measure provides for a state personnel board of three members: the state budget officer and two members appointed by the Governor. A Director of Personnel experienced in the technique of public personnel administration is specified for appointment by this board. Approximately 3,000 employees earning about $4,000,000 will be affected by the new measure. One year's residence in the state will normally be required for admission to examinations, but this provision may be waived in emergency and exceptional cases. The law does not provide for any form of veterans' preference.

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News Bulletin of
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1937
Release No.4: For Thurs., May 27

Housing Shortage Seen As Recovery Continues

Housing – [illegible]

A "nationwide housing shortage of unprecedented severity and duration, unless drastic measures are taken immediately on a very wide scale" is forecast in a study of the United States housing situation made for the forthcoming 1937 Yearbook of the National Association of Housing Officials. Housers differ in their estimates of the need for new dwellings. An extreme of one million a year for all income groups is predicted by some. The contemplated national public low-rent housing program provides for only 1,000 new dwellings a year.

Causes for this housing shortage, which in some cities has already made demolition of slums impossible because there is no place to move the tenants, are listed as follows:

1. Dearth of new construction. In 1936, despite talk about a building boom, there was only 29.6 per cent of the average production that was accomplished from 1923 to 1929.

2. Change from the "docile" acceptance of "doubling up" necessary when families were on relief or had little money. Restored jobs and raises in pay now create a demand for separate accommodations.

3. Rise in the marriage rate. 1935 figures were 1,327,000 as against 981,903 in 1932.

4. The number of families is increasing faster than the population increase as measured by individuals. An increase of 13 per cent in families is estimated for the decade 1940-1950, but an increase in individuals of only 5.6 per cent.

It is calculated that 5,663,000 houses are required to get back even to family occupancy standards of 1930, which included much doubling up. This includes the replacement of over 3,000,000 unfit houses. Normal needs for the next thirteen years are estimated by one authority at 10,634,000 dwellings--6,389,000 to house new families and 4,245,000 to replace obsolescent houses that should not be allowed to deteriorate to slums.

The Yearbook points out that the amount of housing produced within the past 17 years represents only about half the number of houses indicated as needed between now and 1950. Even if the shortage is made up gradually, it means that some way must be found to make additional dwellings available at the rate of about a million a year.

"Hand-me-down" houses, offered as a partial solution for a housing shortage, are impractical for low-income groups, the study emphasizes. "There is a vast difference between handing down a house from one family to another of approximately the same cultural and economic background and the handing down of entire residential areas from one economic, racial, or national group to another with entirely dissimilar income, background, habits, and housing needs.

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News Bulletin of
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1937
Release No.5: For Fri., May 28

Planning - Conferences

Planners to Discuss City Zoning Revision

Revision of city zoning ordinances, need for which is sharpened by prediction of a boom in urban real estate, will be one of the principal points of discussion at the three-day national planning conference opening next Tuesday (June 1) in Detroit. Participating organizations will be the American City Planning Institute, the American Planning and Civic Association, the American Society of Planning Officials and the National Economic and Social Planning Association.

Some 1,200 cities in the United States have adopted zoning to control building, land use and population density. Planners feel that revisions in zoning laws are necessary because most cities are "over-zoned"--they have provided for a greater population growth than is now considered likely; they have zoned too much land for residential use; they have "frozen" property values at levels higher than probable future earnings seem to warrant.

Authorities agree that land should be zoned as part of a long-range plan for city development. Critics point out that many present zoning practices are primarily prohibitive and therefore negative. Need is seen for long-term plans based on the city's social, economic and geographical characteristics, and using its natural resources to the fullest.

L. Segoe, Director, Research Committee on Urbanism, will lead the discussion on urban planning at the Detroit conference on Tuesday morning. Panel discussants will be: Harold S. Buttenheim, Editor, The American City; Louis Wirth, Associate Professor of Sociology, University of Chicago; Albert Lepawsky, Assistant Director, Public Administration Clearing House; and Miller McClintock, Director, Erskine Bureau of Street Traffic Research, Harvard University.

Alfred Bettman, President, American Society of Planning Officials, will preside over the afternoon session on metropolitan and county planning, which will be led by Earle S. Draper, Director of Land Planning and Housing, Tennessee Valley Authority.

Panel discussants will be: J. Franklin Bonner, Director, Monroe County (N.Y.) Division of Regional Planning; Wallace C. Penfield, County Planning and Public Works Engineer, Santa Barbara County, Calif.; Dr. Phillip A. Parsons, Oregon State Planning Board, and J. M. Albers, Areal Planning Engineer, Wisconsin State Planning Board.

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News Bulletin of
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1937
Release No.6: For Sat., May 29

Report Throws New Light on Assessor's Job

Publication of a guidebook to efficient tax assessment was announced today by the National Association of Assessing Officers as the result of a six-months' study made by its special Committee on Principles of Assessment Practice. Charles D. Rosa, member of the Wisconsin Tax Commission, is chairman of the Committee.

With the property tax in general, and assessment practice in particular under close scrutiny during recent years, while undergoing numerous investigations by both public and private agencies, special significance is seen in the study. Listed are 80 principles which the Committee believes should be followed if efficient assessment work is desired. Among them are many refutations of the old conceptions of the assessor's job:

That the small assessment district is preferable to the large one; that the assessor should be a local man; that compensation of the assessor may just as well be on a per diem, commission or fee basis as a yearly salary; that assessments need to be made no oftener than every two to seven years.

The report finds that too-small assessment districts are undesirable because they cannot employ the full-time services of properly trained assessors nor afford modern assessing devices in the way of mechanical aid. Modern techniques are seen as superior to the personal knowledge of an assessor who has lived for years in his territory, though he may know it like an old shoe. Payment of the assessing officer for the number of assessments he makes a day smacks of a part-time job; commissions or fees are apt to result in hasty, careless work. Annual assessments are preferable because their frequency gives opportunity to adjust whatever inaccuracies and inequalities that occur, and a closer check is kept on all properties.

The Committee on Principles and Practice went to work in response to a recognized need on the part of the N.A.A.O. for reliable guideposts along the road to the efficient assessment of property. The study points out that it is not the assessor's job to concern himself officially with the social, economic or political effects of property taxation. It is his business to evaluate property properly and to interpret the tax legislation of his jurisdiction as it is written.

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News Bulletin of
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Release No.1: For Mon., May 31

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Legislatures Deal with City Problems

New sources of revenue, the refunding of bonds, regulation of urban public utilities, civil service, city planning and housing powers were among problems of city government brought to the attention of state legislatures during the open season on law-making now drawing to a close. According to information from the American Municipal Association, several hundred laws of direct concern to municipal governments were placed on the statute books of the 43 states meeting in regular session this year. All but nine or ten of them have now adjourned.

Pressure on the cities, called upon to finance increased municipal services and added welfare costs, is reflected in the general petition for bond authorizations and the request to share in revenues that went up from the cities. Most of the many revenue bond provisions enacted were in connection with grants from the Public Works Administration, to permit continuance of projects. The types of self-liquidating projects enabled by the bond issues most commonly were for water and electric plants, but also included municipal hospitals, barge terminals, bridges, public levees, sewer improvements and ports. To refund their debts, many cities sought and gained authorization of funding bonds, which will enable them to secure a lower rate of interest, or to ease debt pressure.

In almost all states cities asked for a share or increased return of the revenues from state gasoline, motor, and liquor taxes, but their requests met with approval in comparatively few cases. Washington cities, petitioning for a 20 per cent share of the net gasoline revenue, secured only an allocation of $500 per mile for maintenance of primary highways, in addition to the present distribution of $1.50 per capita. In California, the "in lieu" (property) tax on automobiles was re-enacted, raising the cities' share from 25 to 40 per cent. A new licensing act in Oklahoma raised the cities' share to 15 per cent of the revenue.

Washington cities also persuaded their legislators to return a larger portion of

(MORE)

the state liquor tax revenues, citing the fact that enforcement of liquor laws involves a substantial outlay of municipal funds. Under the new law, 50 per cent of the liquor tax will be given the cities instead of the 20 per cent formerly returned.

Legislation regarding local regulation of utilities was widespread. A new law in Texas gives all cities and towns the right to regulate by ordinance the rates and compensation of gas, telephone, light, power or sewerage utilities. The Indiana legislature authorized Hoosier cities to fix rates for utility services under public ownership at a sufficient amount to compensate for taxes that would be forthcoming if the utility were privately owned. Cities of this state were also given permission to construct and operate swimming pools and golf courses. The Arkansas legislature legalized rural electrification corporations of a non-profit nature for municipalities under 2500. Kansas enacted a law limiting the use of revenue from municipally owned utilities in third-class cities to plant operation, salaries and construction, any surplus to go into the general revenue fund; while Nebraska provided for the investment of surplus from municipal utility operation.

Public housing authorities can be established in municipalities under enabling legislation passed in seven states: Arkansas, Georgia, Indiana, Maryland, North Dakota, Oregon and Vermont. All cities in Nebraska and those in Maine were empowered to establish city plan commissions. Cities in Minnesota were given the authority to regulate through city plan commissions the platting of new real estate subdivisions.

Many states considered laws relating to municipal civil service. Kansas and North Dakota enacted legislation which will permit the larger cities in these states to establish public personnel agencies. Iowa made its municipal civil service law apply to all cities of the first class. In West Virginia and Washington, cities received legislative permission to establish civil service systems in their police departments. In most of the states measures relating to police, firemen and other municipal employee pension systems demanded legislative attention.

Measures to permit operation of municipal hospitals were passed in Illinois and Iowa. A number of states, among them Arkansas, Iowa and Minnesota, passed new traffic laws that will increase the uniformity of city traffic regulations.

Among the many other measures enacted were the following grants of additional powers to local government: to Connecticut cities, permission to use voting machines; to Indiana townships, permission to enter into contracts with cities and towns for fire-fighting service; to Maine cities, permission to license auto junkyards; to Rhode Island cities, permission to license game of "bingo;" to New York City, continuance of "emergency" municipal sales tax.

Legislatures still in session include Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey and Wisconsin. Arizona, Minnesota and Texas are holding special sessions.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE   1 9 3 7
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Planners' Part in Governmental Reorganization Defined

Closer connection between the city planner and the city hall is necessary for the successful solution of governmental problems facing American urban communities, Albert Lepawsky, assistant director of Public Administration Clearing House, told the National Planning Conference opening session in Detroit today.

"In order to administer planning," said Mr. Lepawsky, "we will have to plan our administration."

It is at City Hall and its related governmental offices like the urban county courthouse, he pointed out, "that questions of the city's physical plan, of its population and industry, its business and transportation, its health, education, crime and recreation are ultimately translated into social policy and administrative action. Consequently, the city plan cannot be isolated from the machinery which the city has available to carry out its plan--that is, from its governmental powers, its administrative organization and its public personnel."

Functions of municipal government are broadening, he explained, and to support this trend, the machinery of urban government is already being replanned and is undergoing an extensive transformation. During the past few decades city governments have been growing more unified and more coordinated through the concentration of powers in a single municipal executive, either mayor or city manager. Now cities are beginning to break through their own corporate isolation by working out their various problems jointly with other governmental authorities. Special intermunicipal arrangements and contractual provisions for joint water, fire, health and police services are an example at the local level. By states they are gathered into state leagues of municipalities and their officials are members of the national professional organizations. From the Federal government they secure informational and advisory services and even financial grants for purposes such as relief, health and vocational education.

To make possible the adequate servicing of urban areas, governmental replanning and reorganization are frequently required on a metropolitan basis as well, according to Mr. Lepawsky. He pointed out that the 96 metropolitan districts containing 45 per cent of the total population of the country are ruled by "bewildering layers" of independent and overlapping authorities, including suburban and satellite cities, counties, townships, school districts, sanitary districts, library districts and even, in one state, by sovereign and independent mosquito abatement districts. Twenty-two of these metropolitan districts, containing 26 million people, straddle state lines. "On these vital areas and their administrative problems the existing administrative machinery of states and national government is virtually silent."

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.3: For Wed., June 2

Schools to Train for Public Service Increase

Establishment by Harvard University of the Littauer Graduate School of Public Administration, which will open in the fall of 1938, brings well past the half-dozen mark the number of schools offering post-graduate training in public administration in the United States, according to Robert M. Paige, secretary of the Governmental Research Association.

"The Littauer School will be unique in many ways," says Mr. Paige, "and it marks an important step towards the provision of adequate facilities for public service training in the United States. Institutions as widely separated as Syracuse, California, Minnesota, Cincinnati, Southern California, Michigan, Chicago, Wayne and American Universities now offer graduate courses designed to be of special value to those looking forward to careers in public administration."

The universities and colleges have approached the problem of preparing their students for public service in a variety of ways:

American University makes a particular effort to provide courses of advanced study for the thousands of federal civil servants in Washington. Wayne University cooperates with the Detroit Bureau of Governmental Research, to give its students contact with practical municipal problems. The University of Cincinnati, which features the so-called cooperative plan under which students work for a period and go to school for an equivalent period, assigns its students in public administration to positions in the city or county or in some other governmental office; thus they are enabled to gain practical experience which is a valuable supplement to their academic work.

The two-year graduate course in public administration at Syracuse University provides for an apprenticeship position during the summer between the first and second years of study. Academic training is further supplemented by the requirement that theses must involve first-hand contact with government offices and public officials. As an indication of the opportunities open to those who have had graduate training, the 13 Syracuse graduates in the field this year have job or thesis assignments as follows: three with public personnel agencies; one with a state league of municipalities; one with a municipal housing authority; two with national public official organizations; one with a special state investigating commission; one with a state department of taxation; one with a state budget bureau; and three with state public welfare agencies.

The rapid growth of university interest in the field of public administration is indicated in The 1937 Municipal Year Book, Mr. Paige points out. Information gathered in a nation-wide survey of training for the public service in colleges and universities showed that of 60 programs reported, 36 had been instituted in the past nine years, 17 of them since 1935.

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News Bulletin of
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1 9 3 7
Release No.4: For Thurs., June 3

New Laws Protect Used Car Buyers

Motor vehicles - Regulation
Used cars

Protection of used-car buyers is the objective of a series of measures enacted this year by nine states, according to the headquarters office of the National Association of Secretaries of State.

Under the terms of the new legislation dealers in used automobiles will be registered with the state and bonded to protect the purchaser from loss through fraudulent claims as to title, freedom from liens, quality, condition or value of the vehicle he has bought.

Florida enacted a used-car dealer bonding and registration law in 1935, the first state to take this step. This year Alabama, Arizona, Illinois, Michigan, New Mexico, North Dakota, North Carolina, Oregon and Utah have followed suit and placed similar measures on the statute books. The Secretary of State of Michigan showed the need for this type of "consumer-protection" by disclosing recently that there were used-car dealers in Michigan who were selling as new, cars which had been stolen or damaged and returned to Detroit factories.

With substantially similar provisions, the various state laws require dealers to register all used or second-hand motor vehicles brought into the state for resale. They must execute a bond in the amount of the sale price of the motor vehicle, warranting the title of the car. A fee for the registration of each vehicle and a fee for each bond filed with the designated state official are imposed. Vendors of used or second-hand motor vehicles are also required to deliver to the buyer a properly endorsed certificate of title.

Automobile dealers of Oregon, for example, under the new 1937 law will be required to post a bond of $5,000 with the Secretary of State as a guarantee against fraud, misrepresentation or failure to deliver a valid title to the car. By another new act, persons importing used motor vehicles into Oregon for re-sale, except those for trade-in on another new or used vehicle, must file a bond with the Secretary of State of not less than the sale price of the vehicle, or not more than $1,000.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
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1 9 3 7
Release No.5: For Fri., June 4

Lansing Shows Worth of Good Financial Planning

Municipal finance [illegible]

City governments on the way out of the financial doldrums have a worthy model to follow in Lansing, Mich., according to the Municipal Finance News Letter, bulletin of the Municipal Finance Officers' Association. This Michigan city, an average community of 78,000, reports notable progress in managing its financial affairs.

All municipal salaries have been restored to pre-depression levels, some above. Wages for common labor have been raised from 62½ cents to 67½ cents an hour. Tax collections for the fiscal year just closed were better than during pre-depression years--just under 92 per cent. During the past year the city financed a $445,000 share of a PWA job from delinquent tax collections without borrowing. The city operated during the last fiscal year without short-term borrowing and has segregated cash on hand sufficient to meet all bond maturities to January 1, 1938.

Lansing's "utopian" state is due in part to the fact that a pay-as-you-go policy has been followed for five years. During this period the city gradually built up a reserve to offset delinquent taxes. No bonds have been issued since 1932 and the bonded debt of the city is being reduced about 12½ per cent each year.

Like a number of other cities, Lansing has recently installed accounting machines, and, according to City Comptroller R. E. Sanderson, these are a great help in keeping an accurate and up-to-date check on income and expenditures. A relatively small but interesting economy was effected in the city's burglary insurance. By installing a safe and money chest in the treasurer's vault, approximately five-sixths of the premium for burglary insurance is being saved, the economy representing the price of the new equipment every seven months. Lansing now requires bonding companies to furnish new bonds each year on city employees instead of renewal certificates as in the past. This gives greater protection, and the cost is exactly the same.

Lansing, points out Carl Chatters, executive director of the Municipal Finance Officers' Association, is one of the cities that, by maintaining solvency through the depression and by installing improvements as it went along, is ready to deal with the new set of financial problems facing cities by reason of increased commodity prices and wage and salary levels, and expanded municipal programs.

News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.6: For Sat., June 5

Public works. Finance

Cities Cautioned on Limit to Service Charge Financing

Need for caution on the part of cities that have gone in for "service charge financing," a significant development during the past few years, is expressed by Frank W. Herring, executive director of the American Public Works Association, in the current issue of the Public Works Engineers' News Letter published by the Association.

About 400 cities, for example, follow the practice of charging "rentals" for sewer service, Mr. Herring says. Many other cities, in addition, have placed on a user-payment basis such services as refuse collection and disposal, toll-bridges and viaducts, swimming pools, parks and other community provisions hitherto financed largely out of general tax revenues.

"The sound of the term 'self-liquidating' has been very pleasant," says Mr. Herring. "There is no doubt that financing a public improvement or a public service by charging scheduled fees to direct users has many advantages, at least apparently. Legal limitations on taxes and tax-supported debt are avoided. Public demand for continued low tax rates is obeyed. Improvements can be undertaken that would otherwise be financially impossible. Costs are distributed in proportion to the direct use made of the facilities being financed, and apparently in proportion to the benefits received."

There are two shortcomings, however, in his opinion. First: "Nearly all public services are of such a nature that the concern of the community at large in their continued operation is of far greater weight than is that of any individual. Ultimate enforcement of service-charge collections would not be feasible. Discontinuing the service for any large number of users could not be countenanced."

Second: the source of service charge revenues is strictly limited. "As every community is made up of individuals of varying degrees of economic strength, there was established long ago the principle that the man of small means should pay less and the man of large means should pay more. Otherwise, community facilities simply could not be supported at all. Service charges in most instances merely move the center of gravity of the distribution curve downward toward those even less capable of bearing the cost. If tax revenues are judged no longer capable of supporting community services, it is difficult to understand how service charges can be substituted with any degree of long-term success."

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Release No.1: For Mon., June 7

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Public Housing Weathers Another Attack on "Eminent Domain"

Public housing advocates chalked up a victory late last month when the U. S. District Court for the District of Columbia upheld the power of the Washington Alley Dwelling Authority to acquire property by right of eminent domain. The court action is regarded by the National Association of Housing Officials as "adding another notable chapter in the story of the growing recognition of housing and slum reclamation as public purposes."

The Washington Alley Dwelling Authority exists for the purpose of clearing the numerous slums from the capital. It differs from other housing authorities, according to Coleman Woodbury, executive director of the National Association of Housing Officials, in that building dwellings for families displaced by slum clearance is an activity secondary to the clearance operation itself. The current case tested the power of the Authority to acquire sites by condemnation as a part of this program, and the legal question decided was whether or not slum reclamation is a public purpose.

Suits involving both state and Federal right of eminent domain for purposes of housing have arisen in several parts of the country since public low-cost housing got underway, although they have never reached the U. S. Supreme Court, where interpretation could be finally established.

The highest courts of New York and Kentucky have decided that land and buildings can be acquired by condemnation procedures by public housing authorities. In New York, over a year ago, the New York Housing Authority was upheld in the taking of property needed for the project known as First Houses. Buttressing this decision was the action of the Kentucky Court of Appeals in March of this year, affirming the validity of a 1934 legislative act providing for the creation of municipal housing commissions. This decision covered the important points of the use of condemnation

(MORE)

proceedings to secure sites for housing, and the general concept of housing as a matter of public concern.

Question of the right of the Federal government to take land by eminent domain for the purpose of low-rent housing also arose in Louisville, about a year ago. After two lower courts had decided adversely to the government, the attorneys for PWA withdrew the case from the U. S. Supreme Court, where it was about to be tried. A case involving a project in Detroit was also thus terminated.

Most state constitutions permit government agencies to acquire property without the consent of the owner by condemnation or exercise of the right of eminent domain, provided the property is to be used for a public purpose, and provided the owner is justly compensated.

In the past, use for "public purpose" has commonly meant for highways, parks, public buildings or public utilities. Acquisition of land for the erection of low-rent dwellings or for slum clearance raises the question: Is the provision of housing accommodations for those financially unable to build or rent dwellings which are safe, healthful and otherwise adequate, a "public purpose?" Conservative courts may base decision on the older concept of public purpose, but the newer concept, as seen in local cases tried to date, interprets the phrase "public use" in the light of public advantage or public welfare.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.2: For Tues., June 8

Marriage - [illegible]
XX Venereal

Consider "Hygienic Marriage Laws" in Campaign against Social Diseases

"Hygienic marriage laws," expected to forward the fight against social diseases, have a chance of going on the statute books of two more states this legislative year. In both the Illinois and Wisconsin legislatures bills are reported near passage that would require a physician's okay on freedom from any social disease before the marriage license can be issued.

Only a few states require pre-marital physical examination, according to the Council of State Governments. Wisconsin has asked it from men for several years, but the proposed law would extend the requirement to women. Oregon's 1937 legislature considered the proposal but after passing the House, it died in Senate committee. Other states reported as asking physician's certificates of health in this respect, most of them from the male only, are Connecticut, Louisiana, North Dakota and Wyoming. New York and a few other states request affidavits regarding venereal disease, and 19 states have general acts making it unlawful for a person so afflicted to marry.

Connecticut's "blood test" law, which became operative in January, 1936, has been responsible for discovering a total of 137 cases of syphilis among the 17,885 applicants for marriage licenses during the year. Tests cost $15 per couple, unless the blood samples are sent to the state laboratory.

Montana experimented with a pre-marital physical examination measure for two months in 1935. The law became effective on July 1 and was proclaimed inoperative by petitions of the people on Sept. 4. During the intervening period not a single marriage was performed in the state, except "by declaration," which made possible evasion of the law. At the general elections in 1936, the referred measure was defeated.

Public health authorities generally believe that laws requiring physical examinations before issuance of marriage licenses will aid in the fight against social diseases. Under the leadership of the U.S. Public Health Service, state and municipal public health agencies are giving more and more attention to these preventable but prevalent diseases.

Information compiled by the Council of State Governments shows that although 43 states have laws requiring the reporting of cases, only four states operate free clinics for care of the cases. These are Delaware, Indiana, Maryland and Rhode Island. Sixteen other states give state aid to locally operated free clinics, but fourteen of these limit the free care of indigents. Twenty states carry on education programs by slides and films, eighteen of them in the public schools, and several of them in the schools only.

For the current fiscal year, $642,339 of federal funds from the Social Security Act have been set aside for venereal disease control for all the states. It is now generally agreed among public authorities, that primary financial responsibility for a concerted campaign should be state and local.

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News Bulletin of
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1 9 3 7
Release No.3: For Wed., June 9

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X [illegible]

Anticipate Bus Terminal Operation as New Municipal Activity

Bus transportation, now a well established public utility, is raising problems that may result in the emergence of a new municipal function--the ownership and operation of bus terminals. At present, only two cities--Hackensack, N.J. and Ithaca, N.Y.--have municipally operated bus terminals. The increasing popularity of bus travel, however, according to Public Management, official magazine of the International City Managers' Association, is likely to create need for such public action in many other cities.

No profit motive, but need for providing more adequate facilities and for avoiding the confusion in having several scattered bus stations lies behind municipal operation of the terminals. Hackensack's terminal was opened on April 24 this year. The Ithaca terminal has been in use since 1926.

The New Jersey city, a residential community 13 miles from Times Square, has a population of only 28,000. The fact that at least 125,000 people in its portion of the metropolitan area shop in Hackensack regularly, and over 800 buses go through on their way to or from New York City each day, led to decision to construct a terminal. It has been built on city-owned property that is a portion of an area to be developed as a civic center. Its cost was $80,000, including the construction of roadways. Of this, the city paid $25,000, a WPA grant financing the remainder. In addition to the bus terminal building itself, Hackensack has provided free parking accommondations for 500 cars for the convenience of the public.

This city charges the bus companies a nominal rental on the basis of 50 cents per month per bus, bringing in about $4,000 a year. From concessions--luncheonette, soda fountain, magazine stand--the city will get about $3,000 a year. With revenues from other facilities provided in the building, the total income is estimated at $9,000, not including principal and interest payment on the bonds or rental from the property, which come out of taxes.

Ithaca, college town of 20,708, decided to build its terminal 11 years ago to improve the traffic situation, acute because the concentrated business district lay at the foot of surrounding hills and streets were narrow. Property in the center of the business district was secured for $48,100 by bond issue, the plan being to use it for a bus terminal, public comfort station and parking lot. Building and equipment cost an additional $26,000. The seven bus lines using the terminal pay the city from $10 to $15 per month per bus, making a total income of $115 per month from bus privileges. The main revenue is derived from the parking area, which accommodates 85 cars and amounts often to $40 a day. Parking charges are 15 cents a day, 75 cents a week, or $2 a month. Total revenues averaged $6,500 a year for the ten-year period 1926-36, expenses to $4,520. Revenues in 1936 were $7,372 and expenses, $5,196.

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News Bulletin of
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1 9 3 7
Release No.4: For Thurs., June 10

Insurance, Social - Decisions

Attorney-Generals Face Interpretation of State Security Laws

With the Social Security Act declared constitutional, attorney-generals of the 48 states have much "business" before them in the way of interpreting their various state laws on unemployment compensation, old age assistance and other provisions, according to the Attorney-Generals' Section of the Council of State Governments.

A collection of "opinions" over the past few months reveals, for example, that:

In Louisiana and New Mexico attorney-generals hold that state banks, depositories of public funds, are not such instrumentalities of the state as to be exempt from provisions of their respective unemployment compensation laws. In Wyoming, on the contrary, a state bank, because "it is intended to be organized not alone for private profit but for public service as well," is held by the attorney-general to be an instrumentality of the state, therefore exempt from the unemployment compensation act.

The attorney-general of Wisconsin holds students regularly attending the University of Wisconsin and employed by it not eligible for unemployment compensation benefits. The attorney-general of Ohio holds that Ohio State University is not subject to the excise tax imposed upon employers of eight or more individuals under Title IX of the Society Security Act.

Employees of the state legislature, in session less than tem months every two years, are held by the attorney-general of Wisconsin as not coming under the provision which exempts from unemployment compensation those who work for a governmental unit on an annual salary basis.

In the field of old age assistance, the attorney-general of South Dakota has given the opinion that "where a beneficiary of old age assistance to whom payments were due, died before receiving the state warrant therefor, the warrant cannot be used by relatives to apply on funeral expenses." The attorney-general of Connecticut declares that where a beneficiary of public assistance dies at the end of a week for which he has been paid by check mailed prior to his death, the check becomes the property of and may be cashed by his estate; but if he should die before the end of the week for which payment is due, the check cannot be negotiated by his executor.

Attorney-generals answering the many perplexing questions of statutory interpretation of social security provisions need to adopt a new technique and a liberal attitude, according to State Government, magazine of the Council of State Governments: "In the absence of precise precedent, time-tested rules of statutory construction must be of some assistance to the attorney-general. However, his task in the interpretation of social welfare acts must not be approached with a predisposition toward traditionally cold logic which scans only the black and white of the printed page, not permitting itself to consider the humanitarian purpose behind the formal print."

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE 1 9 3 7
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois Release No.5: For Fri., June 11

Municipal government – Legislation – Florida

Florida Seeks Solution to Municipal Charter Difficulties

Florida legislators will be relieved of the necessity of considering scores of measures relating to the minutia of municipal government in particular communities if the proposed "home rule" amendment to the state's constitution now under consideration is adopted.

This amendment was drafted after a survey of the municipal charter problem was made by the American Municipal Association for the Florida League of Municipalities and a Joint Legislative Committee. The survey revealed that:

1. "The municipal law of the State of Florida is utterly lacking in uniformity of origin and application, the municipalities being controlled by legislation of widely varying types and effect.

2. "The practice of legislating for individual municipalities by the enactment of local bills has been so extensive as to impede the entire state legislative process, to prevent adequate consideration of measures affecting municipalities, to render impossible any substantial degree of uniformity or stability of municipal government.

3. "A major share of the attention of municipal officials is diverted from their regular duties to legislative matters, and state political issues are injected into purely municipal affairs because of the individual legislative treatment of cities."

"Florida cities are not the only ones that must seek state legislation whenever the slightest change in municipal structure or powers is necessary to cope with the dynamic problems of urban life," says Clifford W. Ham, executive director of the American Municipal Association. "In about one-third of the states cities have the power under constitutional home rule provisions to deal with municipal problems without specific state legislation. In most of the other states, however, constitutional provisions and state laws still regulate municipal government in great detail."

Many of the recommendations of the American Municipal Association to improve the Florida situation are therefore of general applicability, according to Mr. Ham. Some of these are:

Since the functions of a municipality are chiefly local, governing only the inhabitants of the municipality as distinguished from the citizenry of the state as a whole, broad discretionary powers should be conferred upon municipalities; in other words, a substantial degree of home rule should be granted formally to municipalities.

The legislature should differentiate between matters of local concern and those of state-wide import, and leave the former largely to local determination.

The legislature should enact certain general laws, relating to form of city government, for example, which become effective only after local referenda.

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News Bulletin of
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1 9 3 7
Release No.6: For Sat., June 12

Fire prevention - Ordinances

Kansas Town Gains Right to Regulate Gasoline Trucks

Ottawa, Kans., has won the right to regulate the transporting of inflammable liquids--gasoline, naptha, kerosene and other explosive oil derivatives--through its streets. The object of the Kansas city, according to Public Management, magazine of the International City Managers' Association, is the avoidance of fatal fires through gasoline truck accidents, a potential problem in all cities where there is any substantial amount of gasoline hauling by automobile.

Experiencing a $20,000 residential district fire due to a gasoline truck accident, Ottawa several months ago passed an ordinance prohibiting the carrying of more than 600 gallons of inflammable liquids. Contested, the ordinance was held invalid by the district court, but this decision was reversed upon appeal by the supreme court of the state. The decision was rendered in spite of the fact that the state itself also regulates the transportation of inflammable liquid fuels.

Other cities in Kansas, fearing fires from gasoline truck accidents, are reported to be contemplating ordinances similar to the one adopted by Ottawa.

Other cities in the country, Public Management suggests, may handle the problem by following the suggested ordinance prepared by the National Fire Protection Association. This ordinance calls for substantial construction of the gas tanks to minimize fire hazards, and specifies various precautions to be taken in the operation of trucks, particularly with regard to loading and unloading operations. These recommendations have been adopted by the state of New Jersey and have been made the basis of state regulation in certain other states.

Long distance transportation of gasoline over the highways on a large scale, however, according to Public Management, "raises the question as to whether the existing standards of construction and maintenance of trucks are adequate to control the fire hazard. Accidents are probable when trucks are operated by incompetent drivers or by men who are on duty for long periods and are likely to go to sleep at the wheel."

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1 9 3 7
Release No.1: For Mon., June 14

Industrial relations

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Cities Study Plans to Settle Labor Strife

With 25 cities in the Central and East Central steel area policing strikes which affect more than 100,000 workers, the need for practical municipal plans to settle labor disputes without riots and bloodshed grows daily more acute. To the "plans for industrial peace" of Toledo, Philadelphia, New York City and Newark, N.J. now is added the program recommended at a recent statewide conference of commercial and community groups in Minneapolis. This program is to be discussed,among others,at the annual meeting of the League of Minnesota Municipalities this week in Faribault, Minn. June's city election in Minneapolis may determine whether that city will use this or a modified plan.

Some of the municipal peace boards can undertake only mediation and conciliation; others are empowered to arbitrate--that is, both parties agree in advance that the decision of an arbitration board will be binding.

Fundamentals of the newest plan, which was evolved by Dr. Charles A. Prosser, director of Dunwoody Industrial Institute, Minneapolis, are described in the current issue of Public Management, official magazine of the International City Managers' Association.

Keystone of the Prosser plan is an administrative board, the employer and labor members of which are to be approved respectively by employer and employee organizations. (An alternative--appointment by the senior judge of the district court or by the mayor.)

Necessary to success, Dr. Prosser says, is that all organizations of employers and of workers pledge themselves to conform to the plan, and that public officials pledge themselves publicly to support it.

First principle to be embodied in rules and policies is that there be no lockout by employers or strike by employees until the mediation services of the adjustment board have been sought. Failure of such mediation is to leave each party

(MORE)

free to utilize any other agency. If the mediation services of the board fail, however, the board may publish a statement defining the matters in dispute, and, if necessary, the conflicting claims regarding them. Wherever board arbitration is sought by consent of both parties, arbitrators are to be selected only by the contending parties. Although the board is to have no authority to enforce provisions of any settlement made, the terms must be committed to writing and the board may make them public.

The board should not undertake to adjust any dispute involving union recognition, the closed shop, and the open shop, because these are issues that cannot be settled by arbitration or mediation, says Dr. Prosser.

There are certain conditions indispensable to the success of peace boards based on these principles, he points out. Organizations of employers and workers must agree that no strike or lockout will be called until complaints have been presented in writing and a conference requested between representatives of groups involved. In the event that the two parties fail to agree at the conference, and refuse the services of the mediation board, no strike or lockout is to take place without several days' notice.

When a strike is finally called, the following principles and policies would be observed under the plan: Picketing is to be only of the kind permitted by law. There is to be no destruction of property. Employees who desire to work are to have free access to the plant. There is to be no interference with the receipt of material or shipment of products by the company. When the strike is over, all striking employees who have not violated the law are to be returned to their jobs without discrimination. Employees who refused to strike are to be free from molestation.

Created to facilitate "common sense settlement of disagreements between management and labor," the Newark board can act as conciliator and mediator upon request of either party to the labor dispute or upon its own initiative. It cannot function as an arbitration body without the consent of both factions. The Toledo labor relations board does not arbitrate under any conditions. When aid is sought,the Newark board may ask as a condition to its assistance that both parties agree to refrain from further discriminations, strikes or lockouts until the board's work has terminated. When agreements cannot be obtained by the board alone, it may, if both parties agree, request the aid of state, federal or other mediation and conciliation authorities.

The Mayor's Labor Board of Philadelphia will undertake to adjust a dispute upon request of an employer, upon request of a union or a group of employees, or where the public interest is involved. It follows a unique procedure in the first instance, disputes of this kind being taken up by a two-man panel, one representing labor, the other, industry. The theory is that two men on opposite sides of a question will be able to agree sooner than if each were trying to convince a third, disinterested person. If the panel does not reach a solution, and arbitration becomes necessary, the matter is submitted to Judge William M. Lewis, chairman of the labor board, which consists of 10 members, appointed by the mayor.

Toledo's Industrial Peace Board, now nearly two years old, is regarded as the pioneer in the field of municipal labor relations boards. New York City's Industrial Relations Board was appointed March 31 by Mayor Fiorello H. La Guardia.

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1 9 3 7
Release No.2: For Tues., June 15

Cities Open Dust Fight as Motoring Season Starts

Roads - Maint [illegible]
+ Dust

As the touring season starts and hundreds of cars again shuttle back and forth on hot city streets, city engineers and public works officials again face the dust problem which menaces the health and comfort of motor-conscious America.

How to meet the dust nuisance is discussed by George H. Sandenburgh, City Engineer, Ann Arbor, Mich., in the just-published Public Works Engineers' Yearbook 1937. Describing Ann Arbor's fight on dust, Mr. Sandenburgh says:

"Dust was laid with light oil and there was as much dust as before, only it was not quite so visible. Dust was laid with heavy oil and a mat was formed on the street surface which soon developed numerous pot-holes, causing the street to become very rough and making it necessary to scarify the surface every few years. Calcium chloride next appeared as a dust layer, and it did lay the dust if applied often enough and in sufficient quantity. Laying dust with calcium chloride is a continual drain on the city budget, there is little cumulative effect, and the applications have to be made year after year with no lasting benefit."

However, he finds that dust is not an unmixed curse, for, he says: "I believe the dust nuisance has done more to develop the low-cost pavement than any other factor except relative cost."

An exhaustive analysis of low-cost bituminous pavements is given by Mr. Sandenburgh in the Yearbook. Other authorities and their articles on city streets are: H. F. Clemmer, Engineer of Materials, Washington, D.C., "Developments in Municipal Road Surfaces;" Roy L. Phillips, City Engineer, Meadville, Pa., "Report of the Committee on Specifications for Brick Pavements;" Ervin L. Knebes, Assistant City Engineer, Milwaukee, Wis., "Recent Progress in Concrete and Brick Pavements."

Meantime, the American Public Works Association, Chicago, has just issued an engineer's handbook of construction in the public works field. The volume is called "Standard Specifications for Public Works Construction." It deals entirely with the subject of pavements. Later supplementary specifications will be issued on sewer building, construction of cement concrete streets and stabilized earth streets, and standard municipal contract forms. The volumes, in loose leaf form, are designed to guide the municipal engineer in drafting specifications and to aid him in securing satisfactory work.

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Release No.3: For Wed., June 16

Assessors Study Exempt Homestead Tax Puzzle

Homesteads - [illegible]

While some of the states in legislative session this year have showed interest in tax-exemption of homesteads, tax officials are studying the necessity for substitute sources of revenue and the difficult problems of administration which have arisen in those states already exempting homesteads.

A check on such legislation by the National Association of Assessing Officers shows that eight states prior to this year had one form or another of homestead exemption, and that the 1937 legislatures of Arkansas and Oklahoma vitalized constitutional amendments adopted last November.

Alabama's legislature exempted homesteads up to $2,000 from state taxes only, financing the revenue loss by a 2 per cent retail sales tax. Iowa allocated to a "Homestead Credit Fund" all receipts from a new three-point tax program (personal income, corporate income and retail sales) in excess of $7½ million reserved for welfare purposes. An exemption on homesteads was voted by the Wyoming legislature on the first $500 only, a new 2 per cent retail sales tax financing loss in local revenues.

Georgia and Rhode Island will vote on homestead exemption next fall. Florida, Louisiana, Minnesota, Mississippi, North Carolina, Texas, Utah and West Virginia are other states already granting the privilege.

Besides posing the difficulty of locating substitute sources of revenue that will not pinch the home-owners they seek to relieve, the homestead exemption laws may cause worry with their administrative costs. Administration of the new Oklahoma law, according to A.E. Anderson, president of the County Assessors' Association of Oklahoma, has almost doubled the work of county assessors. Short-handed of staff, the assessors in this first year of enforcement found a need for greatly expanded forces if adequate check is to be kept on persons not entitled to exemption privileges.

The Oklahoma law, Assessor Anderson explained to the recent regional conference of the N.A.A.O. in Oklahoma City, provides that for a person to qualify for the $1,000 exemption, he must have been the actual record owner and have resided and domiciled thereon as of January 1, 1937. It is the county assessor's job to check all applications for allowance or disallowance. In fulfilling this duty, Mr. Anderson found that 10 per cent of the total applications in his county failed to qualify because their deeds as owners were not on record. Approximately 2 per cent of the applications did not qualify because the persons were found not living on the property, although they had sworn so. In cases where any part of a piece of property was designated as used for commercial purposes, the assessor had to make a visit to the site, to check on the correct division on the valuation, because only the portion used for residence was exempt. In Oklahoma, as in other states with this provision, any disallowance of exemption gives the property owner concerned a chance to appear before the equalization board for a hearing, and the right of further appeal to the district court--both additions to administrative expense.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
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Release No.4: For Thurs., June 17

Cities Demand Safety Programs as Cyclist Toll Rises

Bicycles - Regulation

Definite return of the long-neglected bicycle is causing city fathers to concentrate on new safety rules and regulations to safeguard cyclists in modern traffic. Last year nearly 800 bicycle riders met death by collision with motor vehicles and over 14,000 were injured. Among those killed, 390 were from 5 to 14 years of age, and 330 from 15 to 64.

Miami, Fla., finding 12,000 bicycles on its streets, is among cities making an intensive effort to launch a safety program for bicycle riders, according to the Police Chiefs' News Letter, bulletin of the International Association of Chiefs of Police. An ordinance recently passed in Miami compels the licensing and regulation of all bicycles and defines it as a misdemeanor for any person to sell, trade, give away, or purchase such a vehicle without properly licensing and registering it. All bicycle owners fill out application cards just as automobile owners do applying for a drivers' license. Before being granted a permit Miami cyclers must face a catechism that includes such questions as these:

In case of an accident, what should you do? What would you do if your bicycle were stolen? What is the rule about starting across an intersection on a yellow light? What is the rule about carrying other passengers and large packages on bicycles (prohibited by ordinance). What are the hand signals for bicycle riders?

Cities that have within the past few months written bicycle sections into their municipal ordinances include: Ft. Atkinson, Wis., Sioux Falls, S.D., Minneapolis, Des Moines, Los Angeles, Oakland, Greensboro, N.C., Salt Lake City and Detroit.

The League of Oregon cities, surveying the bicycle control problem in the state, and examining ordinances already enacted, found that city councils agreed on certain general principles. Among these were: No bicycle should be operated at night or on foggy days unless equipped with a headlight and tail light or reflector. Two persons should not ride on a bicycle at the same time in such a manner as to obstruct the vision of the operator. Bicycles should not be attached to other moving vehicles. The method of enforcing bicycle ordinances varies among cities in Oregon. One city provides jail sentences and fines for violators. Because of strong public aversion to the imprisonment and fining of juveniles, however, more cities impound the bicycle of the violator for thirty days.

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News Bulletin of
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Release No.5: For Fri., June 18

Planning Found Broadening Scope in National Life

Planning

Two news events--President Roosevelt's planning message to Congress calling for seven regional bases for a nation-wide program, and the recent National Planning Conference held in Detroit--focus public attention on the general planning scene.

The national conference, attended by city, state and federal planners, particularly illustrates the emergence of planning as an important social and economic force, in the opinion of Walter H. Blucher, Executive Director, American Society of Planning Officials, and director of the conference.

Physical planning originally was emphasized in the city plans, he points out; but with the development of state planning, the movement has proceeded on a broader basis, with expanded purposes to help provide a better arrangement of resources for human living.

"Planning now means not only the development of fixed designs for streets and parks, but also the relation of these plans and designs to our mode of living," said Mr. Blucher. "There was a very great emphasis at the conference on the social and economic aspects of planning, rather than simply its physical aspects. The impressionistic city of the future' is engaging the attention of planners less today than are immediate practical problems of zoning, land use, farm tenancy, population trends and the relation of the plan of a city to the people who live in it."

The American Society of Planning Officials announces the following newly-elected officers: President, Morton L. Wallerstein, Chairman, Virginia State Planning Board; Vice President, Harold L. Buttenheim, Editor, "American City Magazine." Directors are: Alfred Bettman, retiring president of A.S.P.O. and chairman, Cincinnati City Planning Commission; Frederic A. Delano, Chairman, Advisory Committee, National Resources Committee; Mayor George W. Coutts of Waukesha, Wis. and Mayor Neville Miller of Louisville, Ky.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1937
Release No.6: For Sat., June 19

Business Outspends Government on Personnel Programs

Private business considers the administration of personnel programs a more important item than do state and city governments, if comparative cost figures on personnel management released by the Civil Service Assembly are an indication.

Although in each case personnel agencies exist presumably to insure the best return on investment in employees or workers, comparison between the costs of personnel management in government and in private industry shows this great variance:

Based on figures for 63 companies recently surveyed, personnel management costs in industry amount to an average of $14.06 per employee.

In nine states and 27 cities checked by the Civil Service Assembly, the average public personnel agency received $5.50 per classified employee per year. The range was from $3.42 to $9.04 among the states; from $2.47 to $12.41 among the cities.

The figure $14.06 represents 1.85 per cent of the total payroll of the average business firm. The figure $5.50, for states and cities, is only .31 per cent of the total payroll in the governmental units concerned, a proportion about one-sixth that of industry.

Personnel officers in industry receive salaries ranging from $7,500 to $12,000 per year in companies having more than 10,000 employees. Business concerns with comprehensive personnel programs report paying as high as $20,000 a year to their personnel directors, and the median salary for such work is about $9,000 a year.

Government and business have traditionally placed somewhat different emphasis on various phases of personnel administration. In the public service most attention has been devoted to the formal selection of employees and to the development of occupational classification and pay plans, while in private enterprise personnel management has been primarily concerned with the training and placement of workers after they have been hired and with problems of collective bargaining. During the past few years, however, civil service commissions and industrial personnel offices have made increasing use of common techniques in recruiting, training, promoting, and retiring employees, and in improving working conditions to promote efficiency and morale.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1 9 3 7
Release No.1: For Mon., June 21

States and Cities, Hitherto Paying 18 P. C., Face Higher Relief Share

With the relief bill amendment requiring a forty per cent contribution from city and state sponsors of WPA projects before the Senate, local governments still are wondering how the work relief program finally will emerge and how much more it will cost them than it has in the past.

Advices from Washington predict compromises along the line scaling the sponsors' contributions down to around 25 per cent. Whatever the outcome in policy may be, commentators generally see a tentative step toward shifting part of the cost of relief of employables, borne largely for the last four years by the Federal government, onto the states and local governments.

Hitherto local government sponsors of work relief programs have put up about 18 per cent of the costs, the latest available figures obtained for the new Municipal Year Book of the International City Managers' Association, show. Types of projects included were: Sanitation and health, sewer and other utilities, public buildings, highways, roads and streets, flood control and other conservation, airports and other transportation, parks and other recreational facilities, "white collar," goods projects and miscellaneous.

Percentages spent by sponsors in 1936 ranged from 8.5 per cent for goods projects to 25.8 per cent on sanitation and health. Eighty-six per cent of the sponsoring agency funds have gone for supplies, materials and equipment, while the federal government money is used mainly for wages (78 per cent). The share of sponsoring municipalities is not necessarily paid in cash as they often supply technicians, supervisory personnel, materials, use of land and buildings; transport materials and workers, and purchase land specifically for the project. It is pointed out that under the CWA and FERA work relief programs, local contributions frequently took this form.

(MORE)

Virtually all projects have originated and are sponsored by local or state agencies, which are generally required to furnish all non-labor costs in excess of federal grants for such purposes. Expenditures for the entire WPA, including the National Youth Administration, totaled, through December, 1936, approximately $2,325,000,000. The tabulation through 1936 is as follows:

	Cumulated through December, 1936
Total WPA state programs................	$ 2,078,208,732.34
Federal nationwide projects............	60,385,203.36
National Youth Administration..........	61,793,762.00
Administrative Expense.................	99,994,131.86
Land Utilization.......................	22,997,063.54
Miscellaneous..........................	1,904,599.06
	$ 2,325,283,492.16

The Municipal Year Book analysis finds that about 90 per cent of the total expenditures were made by the state WPA's on projects initiated by local and state governments. More than 14 per cent of expenditures though last year were made in New York City. Six states--New York, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Ohio, California and Massachusetts accounted for $1,216,000,000 or more than half the total, showing georgraphical concentration of the unemployment problem.

Federal expenditures, of course, do not indicate the complete cost. To them must be added funds provided by the localities and states. The type of project and the geographical location influence the proportionate share borne by the sponsoring state or local agency.

"More than half the WPA projects," the Year Book says, "are sponsored by cities, villages, boroughs and towns. State governments sponsor about 12 per cent of all projects, counties about a fourth and townships about a tenth. Remaining projects are sponsored by various special bodies, such as school and sanitation districts, state and local departments of public works, highway commissions, boards of educations, boards of health, welfare departments, park boards and recreation committees. In a few cases, the federal WPA sponsors projects of particular interest to it."

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
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1 9 3 7
Release No.2: For Tues., June 22

States Tighten Laws on Motor Safety

With only five states-- Illinois, Michigan, New Hampshire, New Jersey (recessed) and Wisconsin-- still in regular session and three-- Arizona, Minnesota and Texas-- in special session, the legislative record shows a large number of new motor vehicle laws. The Council of State Governments reports that protection of lives and property of the motoring public has engaged much of the attention of legislators in the forty-three state sessions this year.

Licensing of drivers and auto dealers has made considerable progress. New or revised drivers' license laws have been passed in Arkansas, Georgia, Indiana, Kansas, Maine, Missouri, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Tennessee and Texas. License measures are still up in Wisconsin and Illinois and a standard law is pending in Michigan. Drivers' license laws were defeated in Florida, Montana, Nevada, South Dakota and West Virginia. The bill died in Minnesota and was vetoed in Wyoming. In Oregon, the minumun age for drivers was raised from 15 to 16.

A uniform traffic code drafted by the National Safety Council was passed in Arkansas, Kansas and Minnesota. Iowa and Washington revised their entire motor vehicle codes in conformity. South Carolina and Tennessee passed some of the new code provisions, including speed restrictions, rules of the road and compulsory reporting of accidents. In Vermont, drivers will be required to report all accidents involving property damage of more than $25; and in Montana, motorists convicted of reckless driving will be required to show financial responsibility.

Used car dealers must now be licensed in Alabama, Arizona, Illinois, Michigan, New Mexico, North Dakota, North Carolina, Oregon and Utah; and all dealers in Arkansas and Iowa. Automobile salesmen in Ohio must obtain licenses.

Maine and Rhode Island now require safety glass on all new motor vehicles. Georgia, Maine, Montana, Nevada, North Carolina, Utah and Minnesota tightened or expanded their regulations on trucks and trailers. Maine now requires licensing of all overnight parking places for trailers, house cars, etc.

The Council of State Governments estimates that more than 5000 bills concerned with the ownership and use of motor vehicles have been introduced into state legislatures in session this year.

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the National Association of Housing Officials reports.

News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.3: For Wed., June 23

Housing projects

City Housing Authorities Study N. Y. Lease Test

With a lease signed between the PWA Housing Division and the New York City Housing Authority for the new $4,219,000 Harlem River low-rent project, the housing program moves into a new phase. This experimental lease is the first of its kind in American municipal and Federal government history.

In ten other PWA public housing projects low-income families have either moved in or are being selected. Hence other local housing authorities face the lease question, the National Association of Housing Officials reports.

Under the Harlem River Houses lease, the New York City Authority will operate and manage the project, paying $69,062 to the Federal government for one year. Rents and tenant selection methods are specified in the agreement. The United States retains title to the land which was conveyed to them after condemnation by the city. After a year's experiment, the lease plan will be considered in its relation to other city housing projects.

The Harlem River Houses project provides for 574 living units, a report prepared by the National Association of Housing Officials shows. The total living units furnished by the 58 public and limited dividend, large-scale PWA projects is 24,685. The largest public project is Williamsburg Houses in Brooklyn, with 1,622.

Sixty Resettlement Administration suburban and rural projects will furnish 8,104 living units. Nineteen projects insured by the Federal Housing Administration promise 4,210 living units; and miscellaneous projects such as the Matanuska Colony in Alaska will give space to 3,264 families. All large-scale housing assisted by the Federal government since 1932 provides a total of 40,803 living units.

The National Association of Housing Officials contrasts American and British performance by pointing out that during the year ending September 30, 1936, over 65,000 living units were built with public assistance in Great Britain, a country of about one-third our population. A comparable performance in the United States would require production of about 200,000 low-rent subsidized units per year. Since 1932, the United States has produced approximately 31,000 such units, including all that are still under construction.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
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1 9 3 7
Release No.4: For Thurs., June 24

Many Cities Adopt Tax Instalments

Tax collection - Instalment plan

The oftener a citizen pays his taxes, the less he is likely to notice them. On this theory of frequent, easier payments, three-fourths of the 309 cities in the United States of 30,000 and over have increased the number of tax-due dates from one to five or even ten and twelve a year.

The new style of tax paying has grown more popular during the last five years, according to the Municipal Finance News Letter, issued by the Municipal Finance Officers' Association.

Exactly 150 of the 309 cities are collecting taxes in two instalments; 11 do it in three; 53 in four, and 15 in five or more. Seven permit payment in ten instalments and 3 collect in twelve. The number of cities collecting four times a year increased from 3 in 1932 to 53 in 1936.

Back in 1923, when 165 cities reported, about three-fourths of them were asking payment of taxes once a year, and the remainder, semi-annually. None permitted more than two instalments.

Canadian cities of more than 30,000 population show somewhat the same tendency toward increased acceptance of tax-instalments. Across the border, however, the scheme was put into use much earlier than in the United States. Of the 18 Canadian cities of more than 30,000 population, 7 now call for payment in one instalment, 4 in two instalments, 4 in three, 2 in four, and 1 five times a year.

Over 40 states in this country have statutes providing for tax instalments, many of which are optional to their cities. Among cities that have adopted the quarterly plan of tax payment, commonly recommended by finance authorities, are Norfolk, and Petersburg, Va., Rochester, N.Y., Passaic, Elizabeth and Perth Amboy, N.J., Brunswick, Ga. and Hartford, Conn.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
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1 9 3 7
Release No.5: For Fri., June 25

Personnel, Public - selection

Plan To Recruit College Graduates for Government ~~Jobs Succeeds~~

The experiment of recruiting from non-specialized college graduates candidates for government careers is marked as a successful venture by Dr. Leonard D. White, until recently a member of the U.S. Civil Service Commission, in a pamphlet published by the Civil Service Assembly today.

Up to three years ago entrance to the public service was difficult for college graduates who lacked technical training in special fields. Examinations had hitherto been designed to select men and women for specific classes of positions whose duties were narrowly defined. In 1934 the United States Civil Service Commission opened its examination for Junior Civil Service Examiner to college graduates with A. B. degrees. A total of 7,809 took the test; 3,862 of them passed it; and 1,292 were appointed to jobs. In 1936 a similar examination attracted 21,650 applicants, 7,000 whom were successful.

The nearly 4,000 successful candidates in the 1934 test were found to be typically about 24 years of age, majoring in every conceivable subject from English to chemistry, and coming from educational institutions in all parts of the country. Of the 1,292 appointments made from the list, 952 were men and 340 were women. The positions were in the Treasury Department, the Veterans' Administration, the Social Security Board, the Department of Justice, the Civil Service Commission, the Farm Credit Administration, and various other agencies. Their work included clerical and statistical duties, fingerprint classification, and personnel studies. Their entrance salaries ranged upward from $1,440. Although there are no complete figures to show how appointees have since fared in salary advances and promotions, a study of 118 sample cases shows that considerable progress has already been made by this group. Varying from no change in salary status to progress from $1,440 and $1,620 to $2,600, 47 of them moved into higher salary classifications.

Results of the experiment during the past three years led Dr. White to observe that "large numbers of well-qualified college and university graduates are willing to take a difficult general intelligence examination leading to non-professional appointments in the Federal service at an entrance salary of $1,620." Inquiry indicated that two out of three appointees believe they have satisfactory promise of a future; ten out of eleven plan to stay in the service. Seventy per cent of those queried were taking graduate work in one of the universities in Washington or were following a course of in-service training. The fact that a number of the 1934 appointees, who all started in routine assignments have already made their way to responsible positions demonstrates the ample opportunity for advancement.

The Federal register is open to states and their subdivisions, for drawing new employees; it is also available to quasi-official and private agencies interested in governmental problems, and to industrial and commercial firms. States themselves may wish to give their own examinations of this type, using some modification of the methods developed in Washington, he suggests. New York State, the city of Cincinnati, and Los Angeles county gave such examinations during the past year.

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News Bulletin of
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850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1937
Release No.1: For Mon., June 28

JUN 25 1937

Social Benefits Bulk Large in 1937 Legislation

With many states making all-time highs in appropriations and passing laws on numerous subjects unique to the records, the 6,886 legislators who sat in 43 state houses for 1937 regular sessions are about ready to call it a day. Adjournment of Illinois and Wisconsin set for the coming week (June 30 and July 1) will leave in regular session only New Jersey and New Hampshire; in special session, Ohio and Texas, with a promise of other "specials" to come.

The added millions that went to make total appropriation figures like $117,898,907.46 for Connecticut and $483,000,000 for California will bring many new services and improvements to taxpayers, however. With state dollars matching contributions of the Federal government for social security administration and road building programs, go dollars for expanded highway patrols and better financing of schools. According to a check made by the Council of State Governments, among the average of 250 bills passed by each of the 1937 legislatures, is a larger number than usual looking toward advancement of social welfare. Besides new and amended laws on social security, acts relating to low-cost housing, planning, crime prevention and safety, civil service and labor will benefit citizens of the various states.

SOCIAL SECURITY--Most of the laws relating to old age assistance, unemployment compensation and other aspects of the social security program were passed by the comparatively numerous states lacking them early in the sessions, although the U.S. Supreme Court decision validating Federal taxes for the purpose did not come until the end of May. In general, 1937 legislation in all but a few states closed the gaps in the three-part public assistance programs of aid to the needy aged, aid to the blind and aid to dependent children, and a perfect record of 48 states was in sight for unemployment compensation insurance. A dozen states made the provision in 1937. Old age assistance laws were enacted anew in 7 states; with amendments to laws already existing, the total is now 47. In other departments of social security, 19 states this year voted blind assistance and 22 states aid to dependent children. To administer the new tasks brought on by the new or expanded functions, as many as 18 states voted reorganization of state welfare departments.

(MORE)

LABOR--With constitutionality of the Wagner Labor Relations Act established by the Supreme Court, over a dozen states heard proposals for "Little Wagner Acts." Utah and Wisconsin were the first states to set up such labor relations boards. Massachusetts, New York and Pennsylvania followed later, the latter at the same time outlawing company unions. Strike agitation caused Tennessee's legislature to outlaw the sit-down, making it a misdemeanor with fine and jail sentence.

Minimum wage legislation received increased attention also upon declaration of the constitutionality of the Washington minimum wage law. Missouri, Nevada and New York were among states favoring action for women, while South Carolina and Wisconsin extended the coverage to men. State adoptions of the child labor amendment failed to total the number required to affix it to the Constitution, but several states, among them California, Missouri, New York, North Carolina and Vermont, outlawed sale of products manufactured by child labor.

ANTI-CRIME--Legislatures of nearly thirty states acted in favor of one or more of the four uniform bills drafted by the Interstate Commission on Crime to facilitate the apprehension of "commuting criminals." All four bills, which cover fresh pursuit of criminals across state borders, extradition, removal of out-of-state witnesses and reciprocal supervision of parolees, were adopted by: Arizona, California, Delaware, Maryland, Massachusetts, Montana, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Utah, Vermont and West Virginia. Other states that adopted from one to three each were: Connecticut, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania, Louisiana, Kansas, Minnesota, North Carolina, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, Virginia and Washington.

Kidnaping becomes a capital offense by laws passed in Georgia, New Mexico, Oklahoma; but in Colorado, Connecticut and South Carolina only if the victim is harmed or dies.

PUBLIC SAFETY--Sizeable portions of the taxpayers' money will go for the promotion of their safety on the highways. Georgia established a Public Safety Department to supervise its new highway patrol; Montana, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Vermont increased the size of their patrols, and Kansas, Nebraska and Oklahoma provided for new ones.

New or revised drivers' license laws got legislative okays in 12 states. The model uniform traffic code drafted by the National Safety Council was passed in its entirety in three states, while four others incorporated in their codes some of the provisions concerning speed restrictions, rules of the road and compulsory reporting of accidents. Maine, Nebraska and Rhode Island made it a law to have safety glass on all new motor vehicles.

SCHOOLS--State-aid to education was newly voted or increased in Arkansas, Georgia, Iowa, Kansas, North Carolina, Oklahoma and Utah; and South Carolina assumed responsibility for an eight-months' school term, state-supported. Teacher retirement systems were established in Arkansas, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah and Washington, and provisions for increased pensions or pay made in Indiana, Minnesota, Pennsylvania and South Carolina.

HOUSING AND PLANNING--Authorization of low-cost housing functions for cities was voted in over half a dozen states, but such legislation is still lacking in about twenty others. Legislatures of Arkansas, Georgia, Indiana, Maryland, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, Oregon and Vermont made way for cities to carry on housing projects.

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[illegible]

[illegible] and Rural [illegible]

[illegible]

Nebraska and Ohio by amendments to existing housing authority laws authorized cities and counties to aid with low-cost housing by furnishing parks, streets, improvements and other facilities. State planning boards were newly made official in Delaware, Georgia, Iowa, Nebraska, Nevada and Oklahoma, but Maine and Florida planning boards were disbanded by legislative action. City planning statutes have been enacted in Maine, Minnesota and Nebraska in 1937.

MARRIAGE LAWS--To safeguard marriages by checking the partners on freedom from social diseases, Oregon and Illinois passed bills requiring a physician's test and clean bill-of-health certificate prior to filing for a marriage license. The Oregon bill must be approved by referendum vote before it becomes law. To lessen the number of child marriages, Minnesota's legislators prohibited marriage under 15 years, Rhode Island raised the marriage age to 16 for girls, 18 for boys, and Tennessee set 16 years as the minimum. To prevent "first impulse" unions, Maryland's legislators made law a 48-hour notice of intention to wed; New York approved a 72-hour wait, and Tennessee voted a 3-day wait, only for girls under 18, however.

CIVIL SERVICE--By virtue of acts passed in 1937, state civil service has already gone into effect in Connecticut and Tennessee, and will do so shortly in Arkansas and Maine. New Hampshire is still considering a state civil service bill. Municipal civil service enabling legislation was enacted in Kansas, North Dakota, Iowa, West Virginia and Washington.

INTERSTATE COOPERATION--Machinery for the promotion of interstate action on subjects of widespread concern such as social security, crime, and conflicting taxation, use of waterways, flood control and conservation, was set up in 21 new states this year, and in Illinois a bill has gone to the governor. There are now 33 states affiliated with the Council of State Governments, which is the central agency for fostering interstate cooperation.

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News Bulletin of
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1937
Release No.2: For Tues., June 29

Social workers - Selection

Need Seen to Set High Qualifications for Public Social Workers

Higher qualifications for public social workers, whose duties call for marked skill in human relationships, are urged by Dr. Lewis Meriam, of Brookings Institution, in a pamphlet issued today by the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada. In addition to requiring these workers to pass oral examinations and written tests of technical knowledge, Dr. Meriam would have them go before state examining boards in order to be licensed as social workers.

Such measures, he says, would "afford protection to the consuming public as well as to the trained worker against the unfair competition of the untrained. If and when social workers are examined and registered by the state, governmental bodies can very properly refuse to admit to any competitive tests candidates who have not passed the state board."

How to perfect an adequate test for social workers, Dr. Meriam points out, is one of the most puzzling problems of those who administer civil service. Under present conditions, he believes that the best device for securing persons with the requisite skills is to admit to the examinations only those who have already demonstrated the possession of the right qualifications in schools of social service, and in actual social work experience.

He suggests that civil service commissions enlist professional social workers as participants in the examining processes, particularly in drafting the questions for written tests, in holding oral examinations, and in rating education and experience of applicants.

Civil service commissions are advised to give careful consideration to the membership requirements of voluntary professional organizations, and "to be very slow to establish lower requirements for admission of candidates to examinations." If the supply of qualified social workers is so low that professional standards cannot be rigorously applied, the commissioned personnel system of the Army, the Navy and the Public Health Service may well be used, he says. Under this system, officers after a given term of years must qualify for a higher grade; if they do not qualify, they are automatically dropped from the service or barred from promotion.

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News Bulletin of
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1 9 3 7
Release No.3: For Wed., June 30

Insurance - Regulation

Interstate Cooperation Sought to Unify Insurance Laws

Improved supervision of insurance in the various states may soon become a matter for interstate cooperation toward more uniform laws. Meeting recently in Philadelphia (June 22), the National Association of Insurance Commissioners heard its executive committee suggest the possibility of creating an interstate commission on insurance laws. This would consist of representatives from the 32 legislatures which now provide commissions on interstate cooperation, sponsored by the Council of State Governments, and members of the NAIC.

With its main purpose the securing of uniform laws and improved supervision of insurance, the national organization of insurance commissioners is now studying a number of urgent problems solution of which might be facilitated by interstate action. Among these are: the public administration of affairs of delinquent insurers, taxation of insurance companies on the same basis, and regulation and control of fraternal benefit societies.

Although special recommendation was made by the NAIC in 1935 that all states provide liquidation laws designating the insurance commissioner or other supervisory officials as responsible for winding up affairs of delinquent companies, only three states have enacted the uniform law. These are Illinois, New York and Vermont. A uniform base for the taxation of insurance companies, it is believed, will go farther than a uniform rate of taxation toward solving many perplexing questions concerning the application of retaliatory laws that now exist. With regard to regulating fraternal insurance agencies, the NAIC executive committee points out that not only state insurance supervisors but the fraternal societies themselves desire to make an effort toward greater uniformity of the laws.

To date, efforts of the commissions and committees on cooperation have been directed toward such subjects as legal tangles in the social security and tax fields, and to uniform state anti-crime laws. Venture into insurance administration would be new. Louis H. Pink, New York State Insurance Commissioner, who is chairman of the NAIC executive committee, has been named insurance adviser to the New York Commission on Interstate Cooperation.

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News Bulletin of
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1 9 3 7
Release No.4: For Thurs., July 1

Arkansas Guards Welfare Work against Patronage

"Patronage pull" will not figure in appointments to Arkansas' newly intergrated department of public welfare if administrators of the brand-new state civil service law can avoid it. The Arkansas state merit system, approved by the 1937 legislature, goes into effect today and as a result several hundred state and county welfare employees are working on a temporary basis until they can prove their competence by examination.

By Governor Carl E. Bailey's order, present county welfare directors and assistants were formally discharged June 30, to be reappointed on a temporary basis July 1, pending the civil service examinations that will be given within 60 days to determine their capability for the jobs. This action, taken in order to put state employment on a real merit basis by examining all employees at the start, is an example of how civil service can be given more than "lip service," according to Fred K. Hoehler, executive director of the American Public Welfare Association.

The state welfare office, due to enlarge its staff because of added activities such as hospitalization for the indigent and aid for crippled children, will also fill positions by civil service examinations within the next two months.

Although no other state has taken so firm a line as Arkansas in changing over to civil service, the importance of safeguarding welfare jobs against patronage has been realized in other states within recent months, points out Mr. Hoehler. Tennessee, second of the four states this year to pass a merit system act, is in the midst of reorganizing state personnel and will give qualifying examinations later. Others of the 35 states that lack state civil service laws have taken these steps:

Indiana's state personnel agency administers state and county welfare personnel on a merit basis, with a careful system of qualifying examinations. Michigan a year ago instituted civil service for prison employees and last March put clerical and stenographic jobs in the new unemployment compensation offices under the merit system. Mississippi is using the merit system in the State Employment Service, the first time any form of civil service has been applied to any job under the jurisdiction of the Mississippi state government.

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News Bulletin
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.5: For Fri., July 2

Motor vehicles - park.

New Parking Ordinance to Keep Streets for Traffic

Keeping streets free for traffic instead of for parking is a growing problem in motor-ridden American cities. Latest regulation in this direction is an ordinance requiring theaters and other places of amusement to provide a specified amount of off-street parking space, on a ratio to their seating capacity.

Riverside, Illinois, population, 6,770, according to the American Society of Planning Officials' News Letter, last month incorporated such a parking provision in an ordinance. It specifies a minimum of 200 square feet of parking space for each six seats in any building erected for moving pictures, vaudeville shows, or theatrical entertainments giving regular performances. A further requirement is that the parking space must be on the site of the building or not more than four feet away. No permits will henceforth be granted in Riverside for the erection or alteration of any theatres or public amusement places unless this provision is made.

The city of San Marino, Calif., recently adopted an ordinance regulating theaters which requires provision of parking space to accommodate on automobile for every two seats in the theater. DuPage County, Ill., in a zoning ordinance of broader coverage adopted in 1936, requires that no building or structure be erected or land used for any purpose which will cause customers, employees, or residents to park their vehicles for longer than one hour unless parking area is maintained.

On the same theory that buildings in which large numbers of people congregate are bound to create congestion, there is a provision in the zoning ordinance of the city of Los Angeles which requires apartment buildings to provide off-street parking space on their lots.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.6: For Sat., July 3

Yacht Harbors Listed as Growing Municipal Activity

Great growth of interest in boating as a recreation is giving rise to another municipal activity in the development of waterfront facilities by the maintenance of yacht basins and harbors. Seventeen cities are listed in the current issue of Public Mangement, magazine of the International City Managers' Association, as either recently finishing or having nearly completed new pleasure boating basins. These include: Berkeley, Calif.; Detroit; Louisville; Cambridge, Md.; Norfolk, Va.; Fort Myers, Gulfport and Tampa, Fla.; Delmar and Perth Amboy, N.J.; Greenwich, Conn.; Gulfport, Miss.; Escanaba and Traverse City, Mich.; Evansville, Ind.; Salt Lake City, and New York City.

Boat harbors are a comparatively new municipal activity, according to Public Management. Miami and San Francisco about twelve years ago were among the first large cities to recognize the value of public facilities for pleasure boating. Many of the currently built harbors are financed in part with WPA assistance. Berkeley has just completed a million dollar yacht harbor and aquatic park with this aid. Perth Amboy's boat basin, created as a WPA project, cost $135,000; Escanaba's will cost about $115,000; and Fort Myers', about $150,000. Louisville added $30,000 to $150,000 of WPA funds to develop boating facilities on her river front.

Municipal boat basins generally consist of a series of floats or piers and catwalks that form individual slips. Fresh water, fuel, supplies, ample parking space for spectators on shore, and other services are usually provided. The Berkeley yacht harbor, for example, provides a marine railway, an electric crane, a boom lift, battery charging, watchman service, berth space for 175 boats and anchorage for 300, telephones, mail service, tool lockers, gasoline and oil service, shore boat service and emergency supplies. Berkeley's aquatic park, over a mile long and 900 feet wide, will have its shoreline landscaped for picnic spots, bays and sandy beaches, while a large island in the center of the lake is being converted into a game refuge.

The basins and yacht harbors are run by the city park departments, a harbormaster, or some other city agency. Revenue comes mainly from rentals of boat berths, on a monthly or seasonal basis. With all available berths rented, Berkeley created a net monthly income of $600 with the opening of her harbor and $1,000 a month is in sight as soon as more facilities are provided. Miami, which charges a daily rental of 4 cents per lineal foot of boat, or 3 cents for monthly storage in winter, derived a net income of $12,202 in 1936.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.1: For Mon., July 5

Three-Fourths of States Now "United" for Cooperation

Anticipating Governor Henry Horner's signature to his recommended bill providing for an official commission on interstate cooperation for Illinois, the Council of State Governments announced today that the close of the 1937 legislative year finds 35 of the 48 states with machinery to solve interstate problems.

Since January 1, 25 state legislatures have voted establishment of agencies of cooperation to work with the Council of State Governments. Within a little more than the past month Massachusetts set up a Commission on Interstate Cooperation to succeed its Commission on Interstate Compacts Affecting Labor and Industries; Connecticut and Wisconsin became members of the cooperating group by statute, and Michigan passed a concurrent resolution designating its well-established Legislative Council as the agency to perform functions of interstate cooperation.

States still lacking this legal implement for attacking interstate problems are: Arizona, California, Idaho, Nevada, Utah and Washington in the West; Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri, North Dakota and Texas in the Middle West; and Delaware and Maine on the East Coast.

The movement for interstate cooperation was instituted by the Council of State Governments a little over two years ago. With New Jersey and Colorado taking the first steps, in 1935 nine state legislatures approved resolutions or statutes creating commissions. Last year's legislative sessions added eight more states to the list, and 1937 more than doubled the number.

Interstate differences in social security rulings, crime control and conflicting taxation are chief among the problems of nationwide coverage that are being attacked through the cooperative machinery. Regional problems of the dust bowl and the flood basin are being studied, with a view to solution by interstate action. Among recent subjects of interstate compacts between two or more states already made or proposed

(MORE)

are: stabilization of coal production and sale; milk control; watermelon marketing; tobacco control; cattle rustling; labor standards; pollution prevention; and control of natural resources.

Activity of the Eastern states with cooperative commissions during the past year is indicative of the wide range of problems that can come within the scope of interstate cooperation in just one section of the country:

The Interstate Commission on the Delaware River Basin ("Incodel"), which includes New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, appointed committees on planning, engineering, legislation, Federal cooperation and public cooperation to point up a coordinated program of governmental operations for the region.

A nine-state regional highway safety conference endorsed highway safety bills providing for reciprocal reporting of automobile accidents, compulsory instruction on highway safety in the schools and periodic inspection of motor vehicles, and advised a survey relating to uniform legislation on house trailers.

A joint hearing of New Jersey and New York officials considered legislation to create a single commission to operate the jointly owned Palisades Interstate Park. Legislation was subsequently approved by New York.

A Uniform Transfer of Dependents Act was drawn up by the Interstate Conference on Transient Laws and Settlement Laws and the Interstate Commission on Social Security This establishes the machinery for the negotiation of reciprocal agreements governing both the transfer of dependents from state to state and the settlement of workers.

A six-state conference considered problems of liquor control involving interstate relationships, and established a continuing committee to work out desirable legislatio on labeling, importation limits and sale of warehouse receipts.

A resolution was drafted requesting the development of a state-federal program of land acquisition for wild life refuges. The New York Commission formally adopted the resolution.

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PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1937
Release No.2: For Tues., July 6

Street railroads

Cities Left with Abandoned Trolley Tracks Find Removal a Problem

Streetcar tracks left by abandoned trolley lines are a source of annoyance to cities whose problem it is to get rid of them. From Manhattan Island, N.Y. to Wichita, Kans., the tracks may be found lying useless in streets where buses now rumble, frequently because there were no contracts to hold the traction company responsible for their removal when the shift from trollies to buses was made.

A survey of action taken by 37 American cities on this problem was issued today jointly by the American Municipal Association, the American Public Works Association and the International City Managers' Association, from information gathered under the direction of Joseph E. English, Department of Public Works and Service, Trenton, N.J., and Thomas J. Walsh, Administrative Assistant to Trenton's City Manager Paul Morton.

Although in some cases, stipulations in traction franchises specify the traction company's duty to restore the pavement to conformity with the remaining street surface when tracks are abandoned, it is often difficult to force the company, especially if it is in receivership, to carry out the terms of the contract, says the pamphlet.

Among plans followed by cities in removing the abandoned tracks are these:

(1) The company conveys title to the tracks to the city, in return for which the city releases the company from any further obligations; under this arrangement the city paves the street, at the same time removing the tracks for salvage.

(2) The company makes a cash payment to the city to discharge any obligations on rail removal.

(3) In cases where the city is not ready to repave, the company is permitted to cover the rails with asphalt, concrete or other material, leaving them buried in the street until the entire thoroughfare is repaved.

Fifteen and twenty years ago, before the days of bus competition, the report points out, it was almost universal practice to require the street car company, either by state law or by franchise, to pave and maintain the street area between the tracks and for a specified distance on either side. In the 1920's, some states, including Connecticut, Indiana, Iowa, Massachusetts, Montana, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Utah, granted some measure of legislative relief to street railway companies, thus making more serious for cities the question of track removal and repaving.

Many cities have made car-track removal a relief project, the survey shows, among them Asbury Park, and Camden, N.J., Canton and Dayton, O., Erie, Penna., Grand Rapids, Mich., Tulsa, Okla., Wichita, Kans. and Springfield, Mass. Canton, Dayton and Erie salvaged the rails, getting from $9.35 to $12.75 a ton for the scrap iron. In Wichita, the traction company paid the city's share of $75,000 on the WPA project for repaving after rails had been removed. Erie got $50,000 from the traction company for similar purpose.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.3: For Wed., July 7

New Fashions Turn Up in Police Radio

Police-Communication-Radio

There are always new turns and tricks to make police radio more effective in the business of catching criminals. Quincy, Mass., has one of the newest--a "ouija board" of radio control to keep the central police station informed of the location of cruising radio cars every minute of the day and night, according to the Police Chiefs' News Letter, official bulletin of the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

Designed and constructed by Sergt. John P. Duffy, superintendent of the local police radio system, and his assistant, the "ouija" is a large, composition board map of the city of Quincy, divided into 19 sectors, each one of which has a small white light with a number painted on its face. Every sector has 9 smaller colored lights also, designating the force's 8 radio cars and 1 patrol wagon which are equipped with 2-way radios. Each of the various colored lights is related to a certain car: red for No.1, green for No.6, blue for patrol-wagon, etc. The cars keep in constant touch with the radio operator, and whenever one goes from one sector to another on call, he indicates the position change by means of a dial on his desk. In addition, 12 large lights indicate strategic blocking points in the city where a patrol car can block off an entire section.

Kansas City (Mo.) police use a short-wave radio and a stop watch to apprehend speeders, especially those drivers who always slow down at sight of a motorcycle officer in their rear-view mirror. A police car with a sending set observes traffic. When a car is spotted traveling at too-high speed, the officer broadcasts: "Stand by for a 1936 Buick coach, black. Ready....Check!" At the last word another officer 770 feet ahead presses his stop watch; when the marked car passes him, he presses it again, and if it is found that the car traveled the 770-foot stretch in as little as 11 seconds, the driver is arrested for exceeding the speed-limit at 50 miles an hour. Figures on the test chart indicate that to cover 770 feet in 10 seconds, a car must travel 52 miles an hour; in 12 seconds, 44 miles; and in 15 seconds, 35.

The legality of using radio information in making an arrest was questioned recently in Texas by a local police department. Referred to other states, the question brought the answer from Michigan that in the opinion of the Attorney-General, an arrest made on radioed information was legal, so long as an officer acted on information coming to him from a broadcast by any regular police radio station.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE 1937
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois Release No.4: For Thurs., July 8

Scientific Measure of Government Needed to Account Efficiency

Personnel, Public - [illegible]

Everybody wants efficient government. Most people try to measure it by comparing their city's taxes with those of the neighboring city--obviously a mistaken conclusion, since the real measure of efficiency must be the return on tax-money expended, calculated in units of work or service.

This is the central idea of a pamphlet, "The Work Unit in Federal Administration," issued today by Public Administration Service, Chicago. It contains reports made by public officials from many agencies at a meeting sponsored earlier this year in Washington, D.C., by the Washington Chapter of the Society for the Advancement of Management (amalgamation of the former Taylor Society and the Society of Industrial Engineers.)

A device long utilized by business and industry to establish performance standards, the work unit is now being used by administrators in federal and local governments in scattered instances, according to the pamphlet, and is on the way to much wider application than was originally conceived by business.

As spadework done in local governments are cited: the establishment of uniform crime reports for police departments; the schedule of the Board of Fire Underwriters, measuring the quality and efficiency of municipal fire departments; an appraisal form for health departments; and standard work units and cost procedures developed by Public Administration Service for such operations of public works departments as refuse collection and disposal and sewer construction.

Representatives of various Federal agencies reported success with the setting of standards for skilled professional activities that on their face would scarcely seem reducible to units of work. Not used as a means of stepping up production along efficiency-expert lines, but as a device for control of administrative operations, the work unit has met with the approval of employees in all departments introducing it, according to these officials.

Said Oliver Short, U.S. Bureau of the Census: In the U.S. Census Bureau, analysis of the jobs in terms of work units serves as a basis of administrative control. The Census Bureau is able to plan rather accurately at the beginning of a major statistical inquiry the cost of the inquiry and the time required for the flow of work, the number of workers needed at any particular stage, and how each division will build up from a very few workers to its maximum number, then taper off as each process is completed.

Farm Credit Administration representatives reported that the FCA had used a unit cost measurement system for three years, with production records on clerical as well as mechanical jobs proving valuable in justifying the budget; in providing effective control over the size of personnel as related to output; and in certain cases providing a basis for interunit and individual comparisons.

The U.S. Forest Service, reported James E. Scott, chief of the division of operations, has perfected a measurement of work loads for the Rangers, who supervise the two hundred thousand-odd people employed in the National Forest Service.

The value to municipal and other governments of universally adopted standards was pointed out by several at the conference. Commented Dr. William E. Mosher, director of Syracuse University's School of Citizenship and Public Affairs: It is hardly necessary to belabor the argument that realistic judgments in budget making cannot be effected unless appropriations be related to a projected work program, and continuously scrutinized in terms of units of work and performance accomplished.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1 9 3 7
Release No.5: For Fri., July 9

Cities of Several States Put Tax Money in Advertising

Promotion [illegible]

A penny spent for advertising is a penny earned. Not only in the two tourist-busy states of California and Florida, but in several other states have cities turned the old maxim to suit their purpose and are spending tax money for advertising.

Cities in Colorado, Georgia, North Carolina, and Virginia, in addition to those of California and Florida, have for several years advertised to woo tourists, attract conventions, and promote new business and industry, according to Public Management, official magazine of the International City Managers' Association. Meantime, the handful of states making legal provision for state advertising is on the increase.

California's 1927 statute on advertising provides that municipal corporations may spend a sum not exceeding 5 cents on each $100 of assessed valuation, and a number of city charters in the state explicitly provide for such expenditures. By a 1931 statute, California counties are also permitted to expend funds for advertising, not to exceed 4 cents per $100 of assessed valuation. In Florida a city may spend money for advertising if its charter permits it to levy a tax for that purpose. The North Carolina law permits cities to appropriate an amount not more than one-tenth of 1 per cent of the assessed valuation.

Among the California cities with 1936-37 appropriations for publicity are: Berkeley, $6,255; Oakland, $30,000; Sacramento, $20,000; San Diego, $20,000; San Francisco, $200,000; and Stockton, $12,600. For the year 1935-36, 36 of the 58 counties in the state reported expending a total of $1,031,572 for community advertising. The largest sum, $474,129, was spent by Los Angeles County.

Daytona Beach, Miami, Miami Beach, Orlando and St. Petersburg are among Florida cities that make a point of advertising. St.Petersburg spends about $40,000 of city money annually for the purpose. Miami Beach levies a special 2-mill tax and Miami a 1½-mill tax for advertising. A popular method with Florida cities is to raise part of the necessary funds by taxation and the remainder by private subscription from businesses interested in tourist trade.

The right of cities to appropriate money for community advertising has been before the courts in both Florida and California. In 1931 the Florida supreme court decided that Jacksonville could not spend money for advertising purposes because the city charter lacked an enabling provision. Recently the legislature approved an amendment to the Jacksonville charter that provides a half-mill advertising levy to be expended by a seven-man board, two of whom will be councilmen. The supreme court of California in 1931 held that the city of Sacramento was within its legal rights in spending money for advertising purposes and contracting with the chamber of commerce.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1 9 3 7
Release No.6: For Sat., July 10

Public buildings

City-County Joint Occupancy of Buildings Found Successful

Merger of city hall and county court house is saving money for a number of municipalities in the county. Joint occupancy by city and county of a central public building that may include courts, jails, all the city and county offices and other official headquarters is reported as successful in a dozen cases queried by the American Municipal Association.

Minneapolis, Minn., and its county, Hennepin; Seattle, Wash., and King County; St. Paul, Minn., and Ramsey County; Salt Lake City and Salt Lake County; Camden and Camden County, N.J.; Fort Smith, Ark.; Pittsburg, Kans., Selma, Ala. and their respective counties were among contributors of information. Their various combined populations range from 20,000 to 535,000.

One of the city-county buildings--Salt Lake's--dates back to 1891, but most of them are of more recent date, and those in Selma, Ala. and Fort Smith are still under construction. Cost of their construction ranges from $35,000 to $10,000,000, the most elaborate building being for Camden City and County. The joint headquarters in Minneapolis, St. Paul and Seattle cost over three million dollars each.

Minneapolis' city-county building is managed by the Municipal Building Commission; St. Paul's by a special commission of 4 city officials and 3 county officials. Maintenance and operation costs, in three of seven cases reporting, are calculated separately for each agency. St. Paul divides the expenses on a 50-50 basis.

Three of the newer buildings--St. Paul's, Fort Smith's and Selma's--have been or are being constructed with PWA or WPA grants.

In addition to housing the usual official city and county business offices, some of the city-county buildings surveyed have among their tenants the state labor bureau, Red Cross and Reemployment Bureau office, the school superintendent, Chamber of Commerce, and relief agencies such as WPA, ERA, NYA and RA. The building in Parsons, Kans., also serves as an auditorium; in Bismarck, N.D., as a general community building, National Guard headquarters, American Legion clubroom, gymnasium, athletic tournament floor and convention room.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

JUL 12 1937

1 9 3 7
Release No.1: For Mon., July 12

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Rebuilding of Oregon City Lends Opportunity for Modern Plan

Something new in the way of city planning is proceeding in Oregon. It is the entire reconstruction of the town of Bandon-by-the-Sea along modern city planning lines. This little industrial town, population 1,500, burned to the ground in a forest fire not quite a year ago.

Described in a special bulletin issued today by the American Society of Planning Officials, the rise of a new, planned-in-advance Bandon will rest upon the united action of property owners in pooling all of their land for the community. The cooperative property pool has been effected, and the completion of financial arrangements, now under way, will see the start of construction .

The first step toward reconstruction of Bandon after the disastrous fire was taken when Governor Charles H. Martin of Oregon asked Chairman Ormond R. Bean of the Oregon State Planning Board to offer local officials the assistance of the board. A number of business and professional men who had previously proposed relocating the business district on a site more easily accessible from the residential areas and the coastal highway supported the board's recommendation to build a well-designed, modern city of modest proportions on a new site within the old boundaries.

The property pool, formed within six months after the fire had destroyed $3,000,000 worth of Bandon property--practically all of it--brought local land-holders under an agreement that gave clear title to a special holding corporation or trustee, the Coos Bay National Bank. The agreement authorized a Citizens' Rebuilding Commission to place a valuation on each lot included in the pool on the basis of the 1936 appraisal, and to negotiate with the Coos County Court for the purchase or exchange of any county-owned parcels of property within the city or immediately adjacent to it. Later, when the final plans for the new town are completed, the Commission will re-allocate the land, giving to each property owner parcels of property equivalent in value to what he contributed to the pool.

(MORE)

When the city plan, which has now been approved by Bandon's citizens, was being evolved, these were some of the principal points considered by the plan makers: selection of the site; determination of the economic size of the town; provision for possible future expansion to care for additional population, new industries; arrangement of principal features and street pattern; general appearance of the city and its architectural treatment.

The main site of the new Bandon will lie within the limits of the burned city, on high land overlooking the Pacific Ocean on the west and the Coquille River on the north. For the new town a developed area of only 450 acres, as contrasted with 905 acres in the old town, is needed to provide adequate residential, business and industrial districts, park and school sites, a resort section, and the street system. To protect the city from the waste of land and money proceeding from excess subdivision platting, and to provide reserves for future expansion, a belt of undeveloped land, zoned partly for agriculture, is to adjoin the city on the south and east.

The business center, the civic center, the educational and recreational group and the resort area are located at various points along a straight, wide central boulevard running east and west. The business district is relocated to provide adequate and safe traffic access to the rest of the city and to the main highway. Parking areas in the business district are located in the interior of business blocks. Nearby space is set aside for filling stations, garages and light manufacturing establishments of a type not objectionable to adjoining retail stores or residential areas. On "main street" frontage is available for drugstores, groceries, banks, hotels and the like. Transition from the business district to the residential area is to be accomplished by means of a civic center for public and semi-public buildings. An educational center is located on the central boulevard between the business district and the oceanside resort.

A definite use for each street is contemplated in the street pattern that has been laid out. The business district is surrounded by a belt boulevard that connects with the main highway. Width of the minor streets, in residential sections, will be determined by the use to which they will be put. Blocks are longer and fewer in number than in the old town.

Bandon's program, points out the ASPO bulletin, is an object lesson in the effective collaboration of state and local planners with municipal officials and a community of citizens toward the development of a town planned for modern living.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1 9 3 7
Release No.2: For Tues., July 13

Management of PWA Housing Projects Problem of Decentralized Program

The Federal government will be able to terminate its role of landlord of low-cost housing under plans now in process of development by the National Association of Housing Officials. The Association announces the formation of a Committee on Management Agreements, whose job it will be to evolve a satisfactory formula for transferring the management of projects from PWA to qualified local authorities. Director Howard A. Gray, of the PWA Housing Division, has expressed his willingness to cooperate with the NAHO Committee, which is comprised of municipal housing officials.

Serving on the committee are: Mrs. Josephine Gomon, Director, Detroit City Housing Commission; Ernest J. Bohn, acting secretary, Cleveland Metropolitan Housing Authority; John R. Fugard, Chairman, Chicago Housing Authority; Walk C. Jones, Sr., Chairman, Memphis Housing Authority; Harold Field Kellogg, Acting Chairman, Boston Housing Authority; T. Aaron Levy, Chairman, Syracuse Housing Authority; Bleecker Marquette, Secretary, Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Authority; Langdon Post, Chairman, New York City Housing Authority; and Henry Wise, Vice-Chairman, Cambridge Housing Authority.

On the theory that a well-defined agreement as to the management of the federally-built housing projects must be set forth when they are taken over by the various local authorities, the officials represented in the NAHO committee will cooperate to set up several fundamental types of agreements, whereby cities:

1. May buy or lease the PWA project, with complete responsibility for the amount of working capital needed for operation, for tenant selection, rent collection and the other duties of management.
2. May share responsibility with PWA in determining policies, but will assume no fiscal responsiblity.
3. May stay on the side-lines, acting in an advisory capacity only.

The type of arrangement will vary considerably, depending upon the desire or ability of local authorities to take over management of the PWA-completed projects, according to Edmond Hoben, assistant director of the National Association of Housing Officials. "At present," he explains, "some of the 40-odd cities in which PWA housing projects are located have indicated their willingness to take over management wherever the Federal government sees fit; several weeks ago Harlem Houses in New York City was thus leased by the New York City Housing Authority. Other cities very definitely do not wish to take the responsibility, in which cases PWA will continue management. And in still other cases, the cities want merely to advise."

There is no precedent for making the change from Federally-managed to locally-managed projects. The national government in Great Britain, for example, has never built, owned or managed a single housing project.

Director of PWA Housing Division Howard A. Gray sees the NAHO Committee on Management Agreements as a means of facilitating the transfer of managerial authority for all of the 52 PWA housing projects now either occupied or under construction. PWA is now operating already-occupied projects in Atlanta, Jacksonville, Milwaukee, Montgomery, Miami and Atlantic City. Local housing authorities exist in 3 of these cities; altogether, in 40 cities in 18 states.

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE 1937
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois Release No.3: For Wed., July 14

New Gains Reported for P. R.

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Four of the most important developments in the history of proportional representation--majority preferential system of voting--have occurred within recent weeks, according to Public Management, official magazine of the International City Managers' Association.

They are: (1) the six-to-one opinion by the New York State Court of Appeals, highest court in the state, upholding the validity of proportional representation for the election of New York City's council under its new charter; (2) enactment by the New York legislature of a law for optional forms of county government which makes P.R. available to all counties outside New York City by petition and popular vote; (3) enactment of another law by the New York legislature which, though it does not mention P.R. specifically, makes its adoption possible in any city in the state by petition and popular vote; and (4) enactment of a law by the Massachusetts legislature which makes P.R. optional by petition and popular vote for councils and school committees in all cities and towns, with the sole exception of the Boston city council.

The favorable decision on the constitutionality of P.R. in New York state puts an end to a legal controversy half a century old, according to Public Management. It removes the last obstacle to the use of P.R. in the largest city of the country, which voted last fall 923,186 to 555,217 for its adoption. (Toledo, Cincinnati, Hamilton, O., and Wheeling, W.Va. are among other large cities using the system.) It also establishes a presumption of validity in most other states, since the constitutional provisions under which P.R. was attacked in New York are very similar to those found in many other state constitutions, and these provisions have now been interpreted as favorable to P.R. by the New York final court of jurisdiction.

The new law making P.R. available for New York counties established an "optional county government law" that permits adoption by the people of any one of four standard forms of county government, including the county-manager plan, as well as the adoption of proportional representation, with either partisan or non-partisan ballot, for election of the county board of supervisors. The new law which allows New York cities to adopt P.R. by 10 per cent petition and popular vote is a general law.

The new Massachusetts law permits the use of the P.R. election system for selecting city or town councilmen or school committeemen and the corresponding Hare system of majority preferential voting for electing a single officer such as a mayor. Proposal to adopt P.R. may be put on the ballot by a petition signed by 10 per cent of the voters. The Boston school committee and the mayoralty election lie within its scope.

Bills in the Illinois and Pennsylvania legislatures this year which would have made P.R. available for Chicago, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, failed of adoption. The Pennsylvania legislature did, however, set up a charter commission to draft a consolidated plan of government for the city and county of Philadelphia, and this commission is expected to give P.R. serious consideration.

Under a proportional representation election, every voter's choice counts. When New York City voters go to the polls this fall, they will mark all candidates for city council according to preference, following first choice. When the necessary quota for election has been filled, the surplus votes for the elected candidates will be distributed among the other candidates, according to second choices marked, and so on, until the required number of councilmen has been elected.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE 1937
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois Release No.4: For Thurs., July 15

Canal Zone Adopts Apprenticeships for Clerical Jobs in Civil Service

A learnership training program for the first rungs of a career ladder is enlisting public school graduates in the public service of the Panama Canal Zone, according to the Civil Service Assembly News Letter. To the well-established apprentice system for laborers and craftsmen devised by the Personnel Development Bureau of the Panama Canal last month was added a similar plan for clerical positions. The U.S. Civil Service Commission gave its stamp of approval to the extension, which represents the first of its kind.

The Bureau's original apprenticeship system for skilled workers such as machinists, electricians, ship fitters, and boiler makers, dates back to 1914. A year ago first appointments were made to the newly developed "learnerships" in 27 types of vocations of the semi-skilled, mechanical, technical and professional variety. Among the learnerships established were those for riggers, riveters, fire station operators, signal maintainers, librarians and sanitary inspectors. In the future, junior accountants, store-keepers, file clerks, secretaries and other similar positions will be filled from learnership lists.

Admission to either the apprenticeship or learnership training is by competitive examination designed to measure both the aptitude of the applicant for a particular occupation and the related knowledge he has already acquired. In each case the minimum educational requirement is completion of a high school education. Apprentices are accepted between the ages of 18-24 and learners, 18-30. A boy appointed to an apprenticeship always serves four years, but the boy or girl appointed to a learnership may serve from two to four years in the training program. Trainees of both kinds give three or four hours a week to theoretical study and the balance of their time to practical work.

"The high standard for admission to the training, the nature of the competitive qualifying examinations, and the strict supervision of both the practical and the theoretical work have kept this training on a high plane," according to G. A. Deveneau acting chief personnel officer. "The fact that the development and general supervisio of the program are directly under the personnel division has resulted in the coordinating of the teaching facilities of the training course with the ultimate employment needs and opportunities of both the Panama Canal and the Panama Railroad."

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.5: For Fri., July 16

Need for Trained Assessors Gains Growing Recognition

Training

Taxpayers and public officials are increasingly coming to the conclusion that the proper assessment of property for taxation is a job that can be done adequately only by persons of knowledge and skill, and not by those who merely know the town well through long association.

Albert W. Noonan, technical director of the National Association of Assessing Officers, supports this judgment by evidence of the spreading desire to school assessors especially for their jobs by making training courses available to them while they are in service.

The State Tax Commission of Missouri in its recent report strongly urged that the state university establish and conduct a course in valuation and appraisal techniques. It was suggested that the course be planned to run three weeks in the spring of each year, that each county assessor be required to take it, that he be allowed $5 a day and mileage, and that the state of Missouri assume the cost of instruction and ½ the per diem and mileage expenses. The Tax Commission declared its belief that the relatively small cost involved would be repaid many times over by the improved quality of assessments.

Along a similar line is the announcement from Michigan that a school for assessors is being planned as a new activity of the State Board for Vocational Education. Participating in the school also will be the National Association of Assessing Officers, the Michigan Municipal League and the state university, through its Bureau of Government. The school is being organized not only to provide assessors with training in valuation and appraisal techniques, but likewise to enrich their backgrounds in the theory and practice of taxation and public administration.

The need for skill and knowledge to secure adequate and just assessment, says Mr. Noonan, is also partially attested by the fact that a large number of states require under penalty, the periodic assembly--usually annually--of local assessors to receive instruction from the state tax commissions. Twenty-three states have provisions of this character, and most of them require either the state or county to reimburse the attending assessor for expenses. Eight other states make the holding of such instructional meetings optional. Only 17 make no provision of this kind. In some of these 17, however, the desirability of training has been recognized by progressive tax commissions which have organized instructional meetings on their own initiative.

This interest in fostering in-service training programs for assessing officers, comments Mr. Noonan, is but a natural outgrowth of the awakening realization that the work of the assessor is not only extremely difficult when done right, but when done incompetently, seriously impairs the soundness of the entire financial structure of local government.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1937
Release No.6: For Sat., July 17

Borrowing for Public Works Needs Careful Decision

Should municipal public works be financed on a pay-as-you-go plan, or by borrowing, through bond issues?

"Whichever the choice," says Frank W. Herring, executive director of the American Public Works Association, "if we are to avoid in the years to come the misadventures that have characterized the depression years, it is essential that the financial policy determined upon be sound for the city in question."

The pay-as-you-go scheme in its pure form, which provides for all capital outlays out of current funds, is hardly feasible in most communities, according to Mr. Herring, writing in the current issue of the Public Works Engineers' News Letter.

"There are too many public improvements which cannot be built economically in annual installments," he says. "However, the pay-as-you-go plan could be closely approximated in many of the largest cities and followed in general principle by all. The metropolitan community's construction operations cover so wide a range that it should be possible to program capital outlays--for streets, sewers, water systems, etc.--so as closely to approach annual uniformity. The smaller city could so arrange its capital outlay program and its bond borrowings that the debt it incurred would be paid off before the next occasion for borrowing came around."

Circumstances governing the borrowing done by private industry and by governmental bodies differ greatly, Mr. Herring points out. A private company borrows money at a fixed rate of interest because it intends to earn a larger rate out of the enterprise it is financing. Purchasers of the industry's bonds have as their security a lien upon the company's property; therefore the life of the structure built with the borrowed money becomes an important consideration. A public agency, on the other hand, does not ordinarily have the earning motive behind it borrowing, and except under special circumstances can offer as security only the good faith of the community and its ability to collect taxes. "The life expectancy of the improvement, therefore, becomes a consideration secondary to the adequacy of tax revenues to provide for interest and amortization during the term of the bonds."

A city's main justification for borrowing, Mr. Herring points out, "is to allow a reasonably uniform rate of tax revenue in the face of occasional large expenditures. It follows that the term of a municipal bond should be geared to future revenues and expenditures of the community rather than to the durability of the improvement. If a city could program its capital outlays so as to be uniform over a period of years, the principal reason for borrowing would disappear. Few cities could do this, of course, and borrowing must be resorted to at times; but sound municipal financing demands a proper adjustment of the bond term to the planned period between borrowings. A permanent debt is not an advantage to any community."

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1937
Release No.1: For Mon., July 19

States and Cities Shoulder Burden of Caring for Sick Poor

States and localities, carrying the entire burden of medical care for the sick poor since the 1936 demobilization of the F.E.R.A., tend to use non-governmental hospitals for the purpose, a survey by the American Public Welfare Association shows. Tax funds are generally used to pay voluntary hospitals for the care of public charges, and local and state plans studied indicate definitely that hospitalization of the needy is being accepted as a public responsibility.

Field visits were made by A.P.W.A. analysts into various representative sections of the country. Material was collected and studied from fifty-four communities in twelve states--Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, Colorado and Washington.

About $2,000,000,000 is invested in all general hospitals in the United States (with a total of about 450,000 beds). Non-government hospitals constitute about 83 per cent of all general hospitals and furnish 68 per cent of beds. Government hospitals (maintained chiefly by cities and counties and excluding those provided by the Federal government for veterans and other special groups) constitute 12 per cent and provide 23 per cent of the beds. In 43 per cent of the 3,073 counties of the United States, having a population of 44,000,000, there are no government hospitals at all. In 296 counties in the most populous centers, having 46 per cent of the population, non-government hospitals beds are two-thirds of the total provisions and government beds about one third.

The report finds no clear pattern in relationships between public agencies and the voluntary hospitals, policies and plans being evolved on a strictly local basis. Four administrative problems are found to recur in the community's effort to plan for the use of non-governmental hospitals to hospitalize public charges:

1. The basis of payment of tax funds to voluntary hospitals.

(MORE)

2. Method of determining basis of payment.

3. Authority for establishing eligibility for hospital care.

4. The setting up of safeguards for standards and quality of hospital service.

Point by point, the report shows these trends:

1. Definitely in the direction of a policy of making payments in terms of service rendered. The per diem basis is most widely used, ranging from $1.50 to $4.50. In large urban centers, such as New York City, the overflow is cared for in voluntary hospitals. Only a few communities use local governmental hospitals exclusively.

2. Agreement on basis of payment usually made in conference between hospital authorities and public welfare officials.

3. Responsibility for authorizing expenditure of public funds most frequently rests with the public welfare department.

4. No state-wide basis found provided to safeguard standards of service where communities use voluntary hospitals exclusively. However, three large cities using voluntary hospitals for the indigent ill overflow supervise standards and quality of service. They are New York City, Chicago, and Baltimore.

The A.P.W.A. report finds the question of the "marginal group" increasingly grave. This means those not entirely destitute, but who are "medically indigent," unable to pay for medical care. "In many communities," says the report, "there are no channels through which this group can be considered or accepted at public expense. It looms large in the case of emergency admission. A rigid standard results in one of two things: Hospitalization is denied to a considerable number, or the hospital is left to assume the loss when the service has been rendered following an emergency admission".

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1937
Release No.2: For Tues., July 20

States Act to Outlaw Drunken Driver

Motor vehicles - [illegible]

A concerted movement is under way among the states and cities to end "murder in the streets" by drunken drivers through stricter legislation. More than a dozen states in 1937 sessions passed drivers' license measures or traffic regulatory acts, most of which contained penalties for drunken driving, and several others strengthened and extended previous laws, according to the Council of State Governments.

In Illinois, where a drivers' license law failed of passage but a provision for punishing reckless or drunken driving was approved, motorists convicted of drunkenness at the wheel now run the risk of losing driving privileges for a whole year. Any court of record can apply the penalty. Judge Charles S. Dougherty, in Chicago's Safety Court, launched enforcement by sentencing five erratic drivers to the county jail.

Kansas' new law is more strict: licenses must be revoked in cases where the automobile operator has been convicted of driving while drunk or under the influence of narcotics. Indiana passed a similar law in 1937. Nebraska and Texas have established stiff penalties for violation of laws prohibiting driving while intoxicated, Texas making imprisonment mandatory.

Other states passing standard drivers' license measures this year were Arkansas, Maine, Michigan, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Tennessee.

Outlawing drunken driving is only one step toward eliminating the evil, the Council of State Governments points out. Definition of a drunken driver and systematic presentation of proof of his condition is equally important.

Several state courts have established definitions of a drunken driver. Massachusetts courts, for example, have held that proof of complete drunkenness is not necessary to convict, but merely that drinking has influenced the suspect perceptibly. New York's Supreme Court defines an intoxicated person as one who has imbibed enough liquor "to render him incapable of giving that attention and care to the operation of his automobile that a man of prudence and reasonable intelligence would give under like circumstances." In New York State, if a drunken driver is acquitted by a jury, his case may be referred to the state bureau of motor vehicles. If the bureau finds him guilty, his license may be revoked, despite the jury's decision. Two convictions of driving while intoxicated brings prosecution for a felony. Where injury or death results, the driver is barred permanently from securing a driver's license.

Special examinations have been devised by some police departments to present objective evidence of driving while drunk, which is also prohibited by many city ordinances. Test of the eye-pupils, blood analysis, pulse and temperature checks, help determine whether the suspect was drunk or ill when picked up. In some cases photographs of the jovial tippler have been taken, with his consent, usually bringing undeniable proof to the court-room. In other instances polcemen attempt to engage the suspect in conversation in the presence of witnesses, and record is made of his answers to various questions, frequently proving his inability to reason coherently.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.3: For Wed., July 21

Sanitation, Public

Cities Draft 3-Way Drive on Litter

"Clean Up Week," a common feature in many American cities and towns in the spring, has developed into a trend toward a year-round battle on rubbish.

A drive for cleaner streets may be waged along three general lines, according to Stanley I. Pinel, research director of the American Public Works Association. Often all three are used together. They are:

(1) An actual clean-up campaign to collect and dispose of existing street litter, and to provide some arrangement for periodic cleaning thereafter;
(2) A drive to enact and enforce ordinances requiring property owners and householders to keep premises and sidewalks clean, and to make it illegal to throw litter on a street or sidewalk;
(3) A preventive campaign to gain the cooperation of all citizens to avert the littering of streets.

"Of the three," says Mr. Pinel, "the preventive campaign is usually the only kind that has any lasting benefit. Schools in particular, civic clubs, churches, movies and newspapers have been enlisted by cities successful in such activity. This kind of campaign, naturally, must be conducted over a rather long period; in fact it should be more or less continuous and eventually become a regular part of school activities."

A number of cities have anti-litter ordinances, which prohibit dumping on sidewalks, streets and vacant lots of specific kinds of refuse, from Christmas trees and grass cuttings to worn-out automobiles or parts. Some cities impose fines as high as $50 or $100 for violations, but $5 and $10 are the usual penalties. Since 1932, May in Minnesota has meant clean-up month for all cities, by order of the State Board of Health. Newspaper notice request citizens to brush up yards and sidewalks. Other cities, waging campaigns of a week's duration, report accomplishment by appointing block captains in school civics classes, to report careless disposal of rubbish; or women supervisors are appointed to check undue untidiness of premises in various sections.

Manchester, England, conducts a clean-up week each year utilizing a variety of means to call attention of citizens to civic duty. Besides the usual public posters and radio talks, news of the city-wide clean-up appears on bookmarks which are handed out with each library book; gas bills and milk bottle caps may carry labels stressing the subject; a traveling news sign repeats slogans in the public square; loudspeaker vans move about the city calling attention to those who throw their candy bar wrappers into the gutter instead of placing them in the "Litter Baskets;" and the city finances a 7-minute film, "Let's Talk Rubbish," through which the sanitation department can explain its concern for neatness to the movie-going public.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1937
Release No.4: For Thurs., July 22

Cities Face Loss of Interest on Bank Deposits

Cities stand to lose a substantial source of income as the August 23 deadline approaches on the two-year law exempting them from provisions of the 1935 act compelling member banks of the Federal Reserve System to cease paying interest on demand deposits of all kinds.

Several bills are before Congress to extend cities' rights to receive interest on demand deposits, which includes money they put into their current banking accounts, as well as sinking funds. House Committee hearings now are being held on those bills, three of which would extend the exemption to 1942, and one to 1939. One of them, however, would call for outright repeal of the exemption provision, putting public deposits on a par with other demand deposits.

The 1935 law stopping interest payment by Federal Reserve member banks on demand deposits accorded public deposits a two-year exemption, since many state laws require payment of interest on such deposits. Fourteen states still have legislation granting cities demand deposit interest. As yet no bill has been introduced that would amend the Federal law so as to grant cities in every state the right to interest on their deposits, regardless of state laws.

As an example of the amount of money involved, sinking fund assets in cities of over 100,000 totaled more than $1,000,000,000 at the end of 1934. Cash in the general treasury of these cities was $440,000,000.

Cities of 100,000 and over in the U. S. have received aggregate revenues from interest on current deposits running as high as $18,000,000 a year. The average annual total for the five-year period 1927-1931 was $16,581,770. Beginning with 1932, when current deposits shrank and the rate of interest declined, this income dwindled. In 1932 the cities received $8,574,748 in interest on current deposits; in 1933, $5,639,601; in 1934, $4,170,247; and in 1935, $3,496,000. Interest on sinking funds brought these same cities an average of $55,142,365 a year from 1927 through 1930. From 1931 through 1935 the amount totaled about $38,000,000 a year. Part of this decrease is reflected by lowered interest rates and part by decreasing rates on securities in which the sinking funds were invested.

During the "fat years" cities in those states allowing interest on demand deposits tended to hoard current cash for the interest it would bring, points out Carl H. Chatters, executive director of the Municipal Finance Officers' Association; and banks complained that municipal money was a nuisance and a risk to handle, because there was no assurance it would not be withdrawn at any time. Consequently in states that are granting the cities interest on their deposits during this "exemption" period, interest rates are decidedly low--½ of 1 per cent or so--and they will probably continue to be so if the exemption is continued.

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PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE 1937
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois Release No.5: For Fri., July 23

Limited-Dividend Housing Projects Win Tax Exemption in New York

Limited-dividend housing projects, recently suggested by President Roosevelt as a possible aid of importance in a national drive to produce low-rent housing, are gaining respite from local property taxation in New York State.

"Low-rent housing advocates view as encouraging the favorable court decisions that fixed the legality of the exemption," says Edmond Hoben, assistant director of the National Association of Housing Officials. "Final determination of the exemption -- appeals have been made on several cases--will permit the housing corporations that build with private funds to establish and maintain lower rents for housing projects, thus assuring tenancy by families of limited income and encouraging investment of funds in similar projects."

The buildings in limited-dividend housing projects under supervision of the New York State Board of Housing were originally declared exempt from local real estate taxation when the New York State Housing Law was enacted in 1926. In 1927 New York City enacted a law granting such exemption for a period of twenty years. Projects enjoyed these exemptions without question until 1933, when New York City amended the local law to require the approval of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment before granting exemption to projects thereafter erected. Shortly after, as part of a general move to reduce tax exemption, the Board of Taxes and Assessment put the projects on the tax rolls, thereby forcing the housing corporations to commence certiorari proceedings reviewing the latter Board's action.

To date, four decisions uphold the right of limited-dividend housing projects to exemption. Although the City's appeals from these decisions may keep all the cases in the courts for another year or two, recent restoration of the buildings of the Amagamated Housing Corporation and Amalgamated Dwellings, Inc. to their tax-exempt status without formality of a trial indicates an acceptance of the provision of the State Housing Law.

The possibility that a city might not comply with its tax exemption obligations has been a factor in preventing the investment of private funds in limited-dividend housing projects, Mr. Hoben points out. The court decisions on the New York City projects may place the rights of these companies on a firmer legal basis.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE 1 9 3 7
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois Release No.6: For Sat., July 24

Cities are Zoning To Control Filling Station Placement

For economic and esthetic reasons, cities that find a gasoline station springing up on every other corner are becoming increasingly interested in how to control the number and placement of the very necessary but frequently oversupplied commodity.

Their tools for restriction, according to Paul P. Oppermann, assistant director of the American Society of Planning Officials, are zoning, licensing and safety regulations.

The proper distribution of filling stations cannot be controlled by specific zoning regulations, Mr. Oppermann points out in Public Management, official publication of the International City Managers' Association. But the board of appeals may sometimes refuse a variance permit because of the oversupply. To make this proof possible, the board must have available facts on the number and location of filling stations over a period of years, trends in ownership, and gallonage sold by the stations in various locations.

Most zoning regulations confine gasoline filling stations to industrial districts, although the zoning board of appeals often uses its discretionary power to permit them in business districts. Control of the location of filling stations in residential sections is exercised by requiring the applicant to show to the board of appeals written consent of a certain percentage of the property owners in the neighborhood affected.

Dearborn, Mich., wrote this kind of provision on gas stations into its zoning ordinance several years ago: "Motor supply stations when so arranged and maintained as not to affect the normal development or use of neighboring property in the same district or in an adjoining residence district, only upon the authorization of the board of appeals after public notice and hearing..." require such approval. A unanimous vote of the board members is required to grant permits in cases where 50 per cent of the lots influenced have protested. Other cities with zoning ordinances having similar provisions are Winnetka, Ill., El Paso, Tex., Los Angeles, Cal., Colorado Springs, Colo. and Dayton, O.

New York City prohibits public garages within 200 feet of a school or hospital. Other cities have applied this regulation to gasoline stations, and courts in at least six states have passed favorably on it. The same regulation has been used in church and theater neighborhoods.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.1: For Mon., July 26

DEC 3 0 1940

State Laws Speed Growing Park Movement

As the Federal government pursues, through its National Park Service, a nationwide survey of recreational areas and facilities looking toward a national recreation plan, a study shows that the state park movement specifically is making phenomenal advancement.

Statistics furnished the Council of State Governments show that the following park legislation has been passed in 1937: Creating conservation departments or commissions-- Georgia, Oklahoma, Tennessee. Creating state park boards or commissions-- Arkansas, Colorado, Delaware, Missouri and Wyoming. New York and New Jersey provided for the creating by interstate compact of the Palisades Interstate Park Commission as a joint corporate municipal instrumentality (the first such compact). The compact is before Congress for approval.

Most states have strengthened their park laws since 1933. Amending or supplementary legislation has been enacted by Alabama, California, Connecticut, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, New York, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Texas, Virginia, Washington and Wisconsin.

Conservation departments or commissions were created by Iowa (1935); Kentucky (1936); Rhode Island (1935); Vermont (1935), and West Virginia (1933). State park boards or commissions were set up by Florida (1935); Louisiana (1934); Maine (1935); Mississippi (1936); Nevada (1935); New Hampshire (1935); New Mexico (1935); North Dakota (1935) and South Dakota (1935).

Conrad L. Wirth, Assistant Director of the National Park Service, writing in the forthcoming issue of State Government, official publication of the Council of State Governments, finds the state park movement spurred to an unprecedented pace by the Emergency Conservation Work program. "Since 1933," he says, "37 states have acquired 350 new park areas totaling about 600,000 acres. Eight states have acquired their first park areas. Six hundred and thirty-nine CCC camps have worked in 586 state, county and metropolitan parks. The National Park Service has cooperated with 47 states, 26 counties and 69 cities."

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1937
Release No.2: For Tues., July 27

Many Cities Plan Zoning Revision

Cities in various parts of the country are showing considerable interest in revision of zoning ordinances, the American Society of Planning Officials reports. In the East, several planning organizations meeting recently at Harvard University discussed revision or modernization of the municipal zoning laws of New England; while Portland, Ore., which has amended its zoning ordinance, furnishes an example of the interest of far western cities in the subject.

This increasing interest in zoning revision is ascribed to several factors, some depression-born and others the product of better times.

Portland, Ore., in looking over an ordinance suspected of being at the root of some municipal troubles, found more than 50% of all area zoned in the city earmarked for apartments and duplexes in a city which prides itself on its homes. The zoning ordinance has been amended to provide more space for single-family residences and less for multiple-family dwellings and business, both of which have been allocated space out of all proportion to their present and potential needs. Stratford, Conn.; Providence, R. I.; Lansing, Mich., Milwaukee, Wis., Los Angeles and New York are other cities which have expressed concern recently over certain deficiencies in their zoning ordinances and have recommended that revisions be made.

Several American cities have recently incorporated new features in their zoning ordinances. For example, Milwaukee and Racine, Wis. now prevent the erection of residences in manufacturing districts; Los Angeles requires apartment buildings to provide off-street parking space for tenants "on the lot;" Riverside, Ill. requires movie operators to provide off-the-street parking for patrons at the rate of 200 square feet to each six seats. New York City has amended its zoning ordinance to exclude, within certain prescribed limits in the mid-town retail shopping district, certain types of enterprise considered detrimental to its character.

The American Society of Planning Officials which has reported in its News Letter from time to time, such current trends in zoning as theones mentioned above, has been engaged for some months in polling sentiment for a conference of the nation's "zoners" to provide a medium for thorough discussion and analysis of what is now a widely accepted method employed in cities for marking off the proper areas within corporate limits for houses, for business and for industry. A method, however, which it is rapidly being recognized, needs some "alteration and repairs."

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1 9 3 7
Release No.3: For Wed., July 28

Pay-As-You-Go-Cities Cleaning Up Finances

The experience of one average-sized American city in lifting itself from the debt morass through a "pay-as-you-go" policy, is described in the forthcoming issue of Municipal Finance, official publication of the Municipal Finance Officers' Association.

The city is Lansing, Mich. Its size is less than 80,000. Lansing's job of cleaning up its finances is particularly significant, since it is an automobile industry city, which felt the depression quickly and where relief rolls in the lean years grew by leaps and bounds.

Today Lansing, as a result of its pay-as-you-go policy, has a total bonded debt of $2,878,000 as compared with more than $7,000,000 in July of 1932. City borrowing has been erased by a reserve fund built up during the years of heavy delinquency. In the last two years, delinquent tax collections have sufficed to permit a reduction of $465,000 in the reserve fund, and still have a reserve large enough to eliminate short term borrowing.

Among other comparable pay-as-you go cities Kalamazoo, Mich. finds itself virtually debt-free; Topeka, Kans. uses the pay-as-you-go system for current operations and to pay for improvements, and New Rochelle, N. Y. has the same system for current operations.

City Controller R. E. Sanderson, of Lansing says: "Our high percentage of current tax collection is due in part to the fact that a discount is allowed for the payment of taxes. If taxes are paid within thirty days 3 per cent discount is allowed. If paid within sixty days 2 per cent discount is allowed, and after ninety days, 6 per cent penalty is added. The discount has served as a reward to the taxpayer who pays promptly and it has gone a long way to offset the bad effect on tax collections of continued tax moratoriums, and interest and penalty cancellations voted by the state legislature."

Controller Sanderson has also installed a modern accounting system and a method of machine accounting. Lansing's school district, also on a pay-as-you-go basis, has no school debt whatever, and Ingham County, of which Lansing is a part, has no county debt.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE 1937
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois Release No.4: For Thurs., July 29

Survey Poses Problem of Medical Care for Needy Ill

Medical service and hospital care for persons who are needy, or unable to cover their own sickness are characterized as "issues of widespread and growing importance in the United States" in the report of a survey conducted by the American Public Welfare Association. Material for the study was collected from fifty-four communities in twelve states-- Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, Colorado and Washington.

The introduction to the study (which was conducted by Miss Nelle Williams of the A.P.W.A. staff) points out that now, as under the Federal Emergency Relief Administration, there is a wide variation in the extent to which medical care in homes, in hospitals and for ambulatory cases is furnished by relief authorities. "There is considerable confusion," it is said, "as to what degree of responsibility should be assumed by state and relief authorities for medical care of various types. There are great differences in the legal provisions under which welfare or health departments might furnish medical care or provide funds through which practititioners or agencies could supply it."

The FERA policies related chiefly to medical care in the homes and left hospital and ambulatory services to local or state authorities. The demobilization of FERA in 1936 passed the whole problem of medical care back to the states and localities, and many of these now are struggling to work out practicable policies and to find the needed resources to sustain them.

Previous to the current study representatives of the American Public Welfare Association and the American Hospital Association met and posed the problems to be faced in medical care of the needy ill.

The committee of the American Public Welfare Association which supervised the study includes:

Dr. Ellen C. Potter, Director of Medicine, State Department of Institutions and Agencies, Trenton, N. J., Chairman; Frederick I. Daniels, First Deputy Commissioner, State Department of Social Welfare, Albany, N. Y.; Charles F. Ernst, Director, State Department of Social Security, Olympia, Washington; Mrs. Mary Wyson Keefer, Medical Social Consultant, Children's Bureau, Washington, D. C.; Joseph L. Moss, Director, Cook County Bureau of Public Welfare, Chicago, Ill.; Miss Gay Shepperson, Works Progress Administrator, Atlanta, Ga. and Miss Gertrude M. Smith, Director, Medical Social Service, Iowa Emergency Relief Administration, Des Moines.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1 9 3 7
Release No.5: For Fri., July 30

The City of 1937

The city of 1937 faces problems anticipated by only a handful of far-sighted men in 1917, and undreamed of fifty years ago. Striking proof of the rapidity of change in city life and problems is offered by the Institute for Training in Municipal Administration, conducted by the International City Managers' Association.

The Institute has found it necessary to revise completely the basic course in municipal government originally prepared in 1934. This is one of a series of extension courses prepared specifically for municipal officials who want to improve themselves on the job. A total of 170 are enrolled in the courses, representing 117 cities in 33 states and four foreign countries.

The revised course, called "The American City and Its Government," represents a shift in emphasis to include more material dealing with the city as a social and economic institution as well as a governmental unit. The International City Managers' Association points out that the modern city administrator must have an appreciation of the social forces back of crime and delinquency and of the economic causes of population shifts and industrial unemployment.

The amazing growth of contacts between the federal government and the cities is responsible for another new section of the course. Before 1932 there were virtually no direct contacts between city halls and Washington, D. C. Such agencies as PWA, FERA, HOLC, CWA, WPA, the new Social Security Board, and many others have dealt directly with city officials. The trend in these relationships, an appraisal of their effects, and a forecast of their probable outcome are all treated in the revised text for this course.

Regional planning, inter-city cooperation and the problems of metropolitan areas come in for increased attention. Another new section is devoted to problems of keeping modern, highly-specialized administrators responsible to the public. The Institute also offers courses in Municipal Personnel Administration, Municipal Finance Administration, Municipal Public Works Administration and Municipal Fire Administration. Courses in city planning and police administration are in preparation.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.6: For Sat., July 31

City Forms Junior Police Corps

Durham, N. C., has just inaugurated a junior police corps, according to Public Management, publication of the International City Managers' Association. The corps would be selected from among single young men between 23 and 27 years of age. The plan is designed as a training school for young officers, and is expected to relieve veteran officers of many routine duties, making them available for other services.

Junior officers will receive from $75 to $90 a month during their training period. They will be on probation for two years, then assigned to regular police posts if they show ability. If successful, the corps will later be increased to eighteen.

H. A. Yancey is City Manager of Durham.

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New~~s~~ Welfare Agencies Set Record

Never before have there been so many new public welfare agencies established in so short a period as during the 1937 legislatures, the American Public Welfare Association News reports. Eighteen new agencies in six months established a record.

In addition California and Texas have set up new divisions to existing departments; Utah has amended its 1935 statute, and a complete reorganization has taken place in New York with integration of the Temporary Emergency Relief Administration into the Department of Social Welfare.

* * *

Connecticut Goes on Centralized Purchasing

A reorganized state government swings into operation as Connecticut's new fiscal year gets under way, State Government, official publication of the Council of State Governments, reports. Edward F. Hall heads the new Finance Department, Benjamin P. Whitaker is new budget director and Edward C. Geissler is purchasing agent, as centralized state purchasing becomes a reality.

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Fred - Kelh
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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.1: For Mon., Aug. 2

The Trailerite -- A Tourist or a Resident?

The trailerite, nomad of the gasoline era, whose increasing numbers leads technological experts to foresee a big new field for manufacturing development, likewise leads the nation's cities to foresee a potentially large tourist industry. Most of the trailer ordinances passed recently by cities indicates that they have an eye to the tourist trade, a new survey by the American Municipal Association shows, yet there is evidence that the trailerite, with his house on wheels, is also regarded as a possible permanent resident, whose activities must be regulated.

Large cities particularly are drawing up ordinances aimed specifically at the permanent resident. The A. M. A. report embraces 53 municipalities, ranging in population from 1,569,000 to less than 1,000. Eighteen states are represented.

Among the new laws relating to trailer residence, six of the ten cities over 100,000 which were studied include time limits for location in trailer camps. The other cities with residence limits are distributed throughout the 43 other cities listed, with Dennis, Mass. imposing one of the stiffest restrictions (90 days residence limit in any six-month period). Ocean City, N. J., is the most lenient, permitting trailer dwellers to remain in camp for 120 days in any 12-month period.

Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., though restricting general location to 90 days in any given six-month period, allows the trailerite to settle during winter months in excess of that limit, provided he can prove that he is gainfully employed and not likely to become a public charge.

Although occurring oftener in large cities, complete trailer regulation is not restricted to them. Smaller municipalities have found complete regulation expedient, because the trailer tourist often prefers the small town and village for his overnight stay. To prevent the mobile houses being used as semi-permanent residences, 16 cities prohibit the removal of wheels, or the blocking up of the trailer.

Twelve of these cities stipulate that any such alteration removes the trailer from the city ordinance and places it under provisions of the state or municipal housing code, or both. Ten cities require a special permit for trailer wheel removal or blocking up.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1937
Release No.2: For Tues., Aug. 3

18 States Form New Agencies To Fit Security Program

While the bill establishing a new Federal Department of Social Welfare is still under consideration in the Senate, a survey by the American Public Welfare Association shows that on the state level, eighteen new public welfare agencies have been established in six months, a record in such legislative action. Most of these new state agencies have been set up to conform with requirements of the new Social Security Act and to equip the states to handle the general relief problems returned to them by the Federal government.

States establishing new departments of public welfare since January 1, 1937 are: Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Iowa, Idaho, Kansas, Michigan, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Washington and Wyoming.

States reorganizing such departments in 1937 are: California, New York, Texas and Utah. California and Texas added new divisions to existing departments; Utah amended its 1935 statutes, and New York completely reorganized, integrating its Temporary Emergency Relief Administration into the Department of Social Welfare.

Most of the above-mentioned states have also formed new local administrative agencies, although a few states chose a completely state-administered program.

All of the new state departments include public assistance functions, the American Public Welfare Association found, and most of them include general relief as well as the categories for old age, aid to dependent children and aid to the blind.

Most of the new statutes provide for a combination of state and county administration, and usually for some joint financial responsibility. Most of the laws provide for boards on both state and county levels. These boards have powers ranging from advisory to policy-forming, and in some cases, they even have executive responsibility.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1 9 3 7
Release No.3: For Wed., Aug. 4

Community Centers

Cities Push Social Center Movement

American cities are giving more and more attention to leisure playtime facilities, in the effort to capture greater health and more happiness for their citizens. City recreation programs show greatest recent advancements in the community or social center.

Out of 321 cities, there are found 1,347 recreation buildings variously called community houses, clubhouses, playfields or community center buildings. School buildings are even more widely used for this purpose. This year, 415 cities reported nearly 4,000 recreation centers carried on in churches, city halls and libraries.

By far the largest number of community centers are located in schools, which are already equipped with auditorium, shops, playrooms, libraries, laboratories, swimming pools and gymnasiums. For example, recently constructed school buildings in Cleveland have been planned also for community use, with gymnasiums and auditoriums in separate units so they may be used without opening the rest of the building. They also have community locker and shower rooms.

Writing in the August issue of Public Management, publication of the International City Managers' Association, out today, George D. Butler, of the National Recreation Association, New York City, discusses the new types of recreation centers.

One of the newest is the recently opened auditorium-gymnasium at Shawnee, Okla. It has a swimming pool, tennis courts, wading pool, croquet courts, swings and benches in a central park area. A common type of community building in other cities has outdoor play areas in connection with an assembly room or social room and one or more clubrooms. Los Angeles has four new special buildings; Highland Park, Mich. is building one; Lexington, Ky. is converting an old house into one; Scranton, Pa. has a new field house, and Altadena, Calif. has dedicated a new recreation building. Other cities recently extending community center programs are: Elizabeth, N. J.; Reading, Pa.; Birmingham, Ala.; Decatur, Ill.; Sioux City, Ia.; Newark, N. J.; New York City, and Washington, D. C.

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[illegible] in the effort to ensure greater health and more happiness for their [illegible]. City recreation programs show [illegible] advancements in the [illegible] or social center.

[illegible] of 321 cities, there are found 1,547 recreation buildings [illegible] are even more widely used for this purpose. This year, 445 cities reported [illegible]

[illegible] recreation [illegible] Newark, N. J.; New York City, [illegible] Washington, D. C.

News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.4: For Thurs., Aug. 5

Planners Look At England's "Garden Cities"

Planners and municipal experts in this country are studying interestedly the success of England's two outstanding "garden cities"-- Letchworth and Welwyn. One of the short but absorbing chapters in the history of modern city building, or city planning as it is called in the United States, is the movement for garden cities, a term scarcely known in its accurate technical sense by the general American public.

The nearest thing to the English garden city in this country are the three Resettlement Administration "green-belt" towns built in open country near Cincinnati, Milwaukee and Washington, D. C. Although the Federal government built and holds title to these cities, it is expected that they may ultimately be locally owned and operated, perhaps along the English garden city lines, with all land held in trust by a city corporation and property leased to private holders. Leases in Letchworth, England, the first garden city in the world, are for 999 years.

Met with public indifference when they opened, Letchworth and Welwyn now are thriving and never have seen a real depression. It is found that they have certain advantages over other towns and are spared certain troubles, ills, expenses and inconveniences. These conditions are cited today: Stable property values; absence of vehicular and traffic congestion; no so-called "blighted areas"; adequate areas for play and leisure time; separation of homes, stores and factories with orderly arrangement and room for expansion.

The July News Letter of the American Society of Planning Officials carries a story which points to the success of Letchworth and Welwyn. Most of the townspeople live within walking distance of their work. The towns are surrounded by an agricultural belt, instead of a ring of defunct or partly built-up subdivisions.

Their industries are thriving and new ones are drawn by 1) factory locations near a big city but without London's disadvantages; 2) workers living in surroundings conducive to health and contentment; 3) a municipal government which seeks a proper balance between the main elements of community life, and which provides an efficient, economical, attractive town, with a plan for every future step.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1937
Release No.5: For Fri., Aug. 6

G. R. A. Convenes Aug. 30 at Cornell

The annual conference of the Governmental Research Association will be held on the campus of Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y., from August 30 to September 2, it was announced today from the G.R.A. headquarters in Chicago. Problems of the governmental research movement, tax reform, municipal industrial peace boards, measuring unit costs of public service and county consolidation are among subjects to be discussed at a series of round table sessions.

Frederick Gruenberg and John F. Sly will be principal speakers of the opening session. Mr. Gruenberg is directing, for the Committee on Public Administration of the Social Science Research Council, a survey and appraisal of the governmental research movement. Mr. Sly is director of the Princeton Local Government Survey.

The second day will be devoted to a discussion of problems in making inter-city and inter-state comparisons, involving measurement standards, financial statistics, comparative tax burdens, etc. Among the participants will be: Clarence E. Ridley, Executive Director of the International City Managers' Association; J. M. Leonard, Assistant Director, Detroit Bureau of Governmental Research; J. L. Jacobs, public administration consultant, and C. E. Rightor, Chief Statistician, Division of Statistics of States and Cities, U. S. Bureau of the Census.

For the Tuesday (Aug.31) luncheon session, Frederick L. Bird, director of municipal research for Dun and Bradstreet, has been invited to speak on impending financial problems of cities. A special discussion will be held in the afternoon on financial problems of citizen- supported research agencies.

Russell Forbes, Commissioner of Purchases, New York City, will address the Wednesday luncheon meeting. The work of one of the principal municipal industrial peace boards will be described on Thursday by Edmund Ruffin, executive director of the Toledo board.

Governmental research men from all parts of the country will be in attendance.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.6: For Sat., Aug. 7

22 States Now Tax Chain Stores

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Five states have increased chain store taxes this year, State Government, publication of the Council of State Governments reports. Georgia's new chain stores tax, just in effect, taxes mail order houses $2,000 for the first, $4,000 for the second, $6,000 for the third, $8,000 for the fourth, and $10,000 for each store in excess of four. For other chains, the rate is an added $5 for each store up to 40, and $200 for each store over 40.

Montana increased its rate to $200 for each store in excess of 5 and on gasoline stations, lumber yards and others to $37.50 on each store in excess of five. Pennsylvania levied a license tax on stores and theaters graduated from $1 to $500 on each store or theater in excess of 500. South Dakota revised its chain store tax with rates from $1 to $250, the highest applying to stores over 40. Tennessee levied upon each store in excess of one, a tax of $3 for each 100 square feet of floor space.

The following 22 states now have chain store taxes: Alabama, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, West Virginia and Wisconsin.

Maine is the only state this year to repeal its chain stores tax. California rejected a proposal for one.

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More States Put Welfare Jobs Under Merit System

The 1937 welfare legislation shows that four states-- Arkansas, California, Tennessee and Washington-- provided for inclusion of welfare personnel in the state merit system, the Public Welfare News reports. Most of the 1937 laws provide that the state department fix personnel standards.

Arizona, Idaho and Iowa require selection by open competitive examination. Training programs are stipulated in California, Kansas and New Mexico as functions of the state welfare boards. Washington has just held its first examination for public welfare personnel under its merit plan.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1 9 3 7
Release No.1: For Mon., Aug. 9

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New Liquor Levies Add To Tax Conflicts

With appropriations at new peaks in most states, added sources of revenue are sought in 1937 to meet increased demands of social legislation and expanding governmental activity, a survey by the Council of State Governments shows. Three years of repeal finds liquor one of the favored fields of new taxation.

In this field, as in those of tobacco, gasoline, income, amusement, inheritance and estate taxes, existing federal-state tax conflicts are further entangled. The states and federal governments, long aware of problems involved when both tap the same tax sources, are attempting through the Interstate Commission on Conflicting Taxation and the Tax Revision Council, to find a solution for the general problem.

Meanwhile the Council of State Governments study finds the following increases in liquor taxation:

Arkansas-- Increased its gallonage tax from 40 cents to 65 cents a gallon and beer from $1 to $1.50 a barrel.

Florida-- Raised liquor tax from 20 cents to 30 cents a quart.

Georgia-- Levied new rate on wines; 10 cents per gallon on Georgia wine not over 14 per cent by volume; 30 cents on Georgia wine of 14 per cent to 21 per cent by volume; 40 and 60 cents on foreign wines. Increased the malt beverage tax from $1.25 to $2.50 per barrel. At referendum in June, the proposal to legalize, license and tax the manufacture and sale of spirituous liquors was defeated.

Maine-- Levied a tax of $2.08 on each gallon of liquor and 50 cents on each gallon of wine sold by the State Liquor Commission; imposed a temporary 10 per cent sales tax on liquor from Jan. 18, 1937 to June 30, 1937.

Maryland-- Imposed a tax of two and seven-sixteenths cents per gallon on beer and two and one-half cents on whiskey from June 1, 1937 to September 30, 1939.

Nebraska-- Increased gallonage tax on beer from three to three and one-half cents, on wine to 15 cents and on hard liquor from 50 to 80 cents a gallon.

New Mexico-- Recodified liquor laws and provided for schedule of licenses and tax stamps.

North Carolina-- Levied alcohol beverage tax including whiskey tax of six and one-half per cent on gross sales of county liquor stores.

Vermont-- Doubled tax on beer and wine; increased liquor tax from 10 cents to 23 cents a pint.

Among decreased taxation, California reduced its dry wine tax; Oklahoma decreased its liquor tax rate from $2.50 to $2 a barrel, and reduced retail license fees drastically; Washington reduced license fees to $1,000 for distillers, $100 for beer importers, and $250 for liquor importers, and West Virginia deleted the beer licensing provision from its law.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE 1937
1313 E.60 st., Chicago, Illinois Release No.2: For Tues., Aug.10

Centralized purchasing saves 200 cities 15% in tax money

Business methods are being applied more and more in handling the public business. Centralized purchasing, the "sentry at the tax exit gate," has been installed in more than 200 cities, 16 counties, 36 states and five provinces of Canada, figures furnished by the Municipal Finance Officers' Association show. It is estimated that New York City, Cincinnati and Milwaukee alone save about $10,000,000 a year through their central purchasing plan.

These cities are still forerunners in the hard-headed process of making the tax dollar buy the most possible, reports received at M.F.O.A. offices indicate. Thirty or forty per cent of every tax dollar is spent for commodities, and centralized purchasing under competent non-political personnel is regarded as a definite means to conserve these expenditures.

Statistics gathered throughout the country prove that an average savings of 15 per cent are achieved through efficient operation of a central purchasing department. One of the purchasing agents' biggest jobs is foreseeing the rise in market prices, and taking advantage of this knowledge to make the savings possible under quantity buying.

Dr. Russell Forbes, Commissioner of Purchases, New York City, defines centralized purchasing as "the delegation to one office of the authority to buy supplies, materials and equipment needed by all the operating branches of an organization." He also says: "The essential business of municipal purchasing consists of furnishing exactly the right product at the time it is needed, at the best price."

New York City, before centralized purchasing, spent about $25,000,000 a year for supplies under the budget alone, exclusive of open market orders and expenditures for supplies, materials and equipment under corporate stock appropriations for public improvements, which hit about $25,000,000 more. Fifteen per cent meant a big saving there.

Milwaukee's Central Board of Purchasing, during 1936, handled about $3,000,000 in supplies, materials, equipment and minor services. Savings there too average 15 per cent and deliveries are speeded. Cincinnati's Department of Purchasing handled $5,605,550 worth of business in 1936,encompassing 13,247 purchase orders and entailing 309 contracts.

News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1937
Release No.3: For Wed., Aug. 11

1937, Civil Service Year, Finds 5 New States Under Merit System

Michigan, which has just passed a merit system bill, becomes the fifth state this year to legislate for civil service. The other states are Arkansas, Tennessee, Maine and Connecticut. This state activity is unprecedented in the history of civil service. The five states adopting state-wide merit systems this year are the first so to act since 1920.

Fourteen states now have civil service laws. Other than those coming into the fold this year, these states are: New York (1883), Massachusetts (1884), Wisconsin (1905), Illinois (1905), Colorado (1907), New Jersey (1908), Ohio (1912), California (1913), and Maryland (1920).

There has been a steady growth also in municipal and county merit systems, the Civil Service Assembly reports. Cities are installing an average of eight each year, establishing approximately 450 civil service commissions from 1883 to 1936. During 1935 and 1936, fifty-seven such agencies were formed. Of the eight county merit systems now in effect, three were installed within the last two years.

The cities' civil service action in 1935 and 1936 represents an increase of about 300 per cent over the annual averages of the last 54 years, and of 67 per cent over the two-year period 1933-1934. Employees of all departments are included under the jurisdiction of many new civil service laws.

Michigan's new bill provides for a three-member Civil Service Commission, with not more than two members of the same political belief. A personnel director appointed by the governor is to administer the act, which will become operative January 1, 1938. The sum of $138,000 has been appropriated for the first six months, and $143,000 for the next year for the new agency.

To obtain civil service status, about 10,000 Michigan state employees must take qualifying tests prepared by the commission. Residence requirements are not included in the new act, but special preference is provided for disabled veterans.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1937
Release No.4: For Thurs., Aug. 12

Housing Brings New Language to "Man-in-the-street"

[illegible]

As Congress considers the Wagner-Steagall housing bill, which is on the Administration's "must" list before adjournment, the reading public is tussling with the new (to them) language of housing. If the housing legislation should pass, more and more strange new words will pop into the headlines, and eventually add themselves to the vocabulary of the man-in-the-street.

The new yearbook published by the National Association of Housing Officials in a glossary defines these new words and phrases which may soon become an integral part of the language. Among terms likely to come into common usage are the following:

ALLOTMENT GARDEN-- Land (not part of a house lawn or garden) let in plots to individuals or groups for cultivation.

HOUSING AUTHORITY-- An independent public body, corporate and politic, created by and under statute, with power among other things to construct, operate and finance housing projects.

BLIGHTED AREA-- An area in which deteriorating forces have obviously reduced economic and social values to such a degree that widespread rehabilitation is necessary to forestall development of an actual slum condition.

GARDEN CITY-- A town planned for industry and healthy living; of a size that makes possible a full measure of social life, but not larger, surrounded by a permanent belt of rural land; the whole of the land being in public ownership or held in trust for the community.

SLUM CLEARANCE-- The removal of a slum condition by demolition of all existing structures (Note: This should not be confused with construction of new housing upon the same site.).

PREFABRICATED CONSTRUCTION-- A type of construction so designed as to involve a minimum of assembly at the site, usually comprising a series of large units manufactured in a plant.

LIMITED-DIVIDEND HOUSING CORPORATION-- A private company with power to undertake projects to provide accomodation for persons of low income, provided that the corporation is subject to public supervision, regulation and control and that its income is limited by law or by agreement with a public administrative agency. (Synonymous with limited-profit housing corporation).

RIBBON DEVELOPMENT-- A building development straggling out for long distances along main suburban and country roads like a ribbon lying across the countryside.

ROW DWELLING-- One of three or more dwellings having party or common walls, or one or more side walls contiguous.

LOW INCOME FAMILY-- In housing statutes, a family which does not have an income sufficient to suport a minimum adequate standard of living.

FREEWAY-- A strip of public land similar to a highway but intended for rapid through traffic. Owners of abutting property have no right of access or right to air and light.

GREENBELT-- A strip of recreational and farm land, usually owned and controlled by a public agency, encircling a community. GREENBELT TOWN-- A planned town and its surrounding greenbelt.

RADBURN PLAN-- A plan which stresses the development of large neighborhood units unbroken by through streets and in which residences are grouped around parks and serviced at the rear by cul-de-sac streets.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE 1 9 3 7
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois Release No.5: For Fri., Aug. 13

300,000 Transients Pose Knotty Problem for States and Cities

The hobo, boy-of-the-road, box-car girl and other homeless vagrants came in for a great deal of romanticized editorial and fictional attention during the depression years. But the welfare worker today insists that the real problem of transiency rests not with this group, which is comparatively small, but with the migratory worker and the transient reliefer. Dependent transients in this country are estimated roughly at 300,000.

Hitherto, states and cities have been prone to discourage transiency, rather than to apply remedies for it. Now the problem gradually comes to a focus, with federal, state and local governments fully aware of it and seeking a solution. Their expressed goal is an established policy of government which will recognize a continuing responsibility for the welfare of non-settled persons, on the basis that mobility is a national economic necessity, but that it should not become a barrier to social security.

A last-minute census on transients is unavailable. At the end of 1935 when "Transient relief" ended with the expiration of direct federal relief their number was estimated at more than 300,000 men, women and children, about half of whom have lost their legal residence-- "restless, rootless Americans" without citizenship priveleges, virtually without a country. Although recovery has absorbed some of them, it is obvious that migration will continue, even in prosperity. The problem is particularly acute just now in vacation states and in the year-round "health-haven" states, such as Florida and California.

Governmental activity within the last eighteen months proves that the unsolved problem of the transient unemployed is really coming into focus. A Uniform Transfer of Dependents Act, reaching the inter-state aspects of transiency, has been approved at recent conferences of the American Public Welfare Association and the Council of State Governments. The general problem also has been vigorously attacked by the Committee on Care of the Transient and Homeless and the National Tuberculosis Association. Florida has its Transient Coordinating Committee hard at work. California and Texas have organized statewide committees sponsored by their respective state conferences on social work. Michigan, through its Bureau of Unattached and Homeless Persons, has continued its transient program on a statewide basis, and New York has given the problem adequate attention.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.6: For Sat., Aug. 14

Personnel, Public employment

City Tests High School Students as Apprentices

The experiment of using high school vocational training students as apprentices in city hall is being tried in Escanaba, Mich., a city of 14,524, Public Management, publication of the International City Managers' Association, reports.

Students were selected on their scholastic records, and after interviews with City Manager George E. Bean. Two apprentices were placed in the city engineers' office and one in the municipal garage. They will do "laboratory work" and will receive high school credit for it. Two students who worked under the system last year are employed by the city this summer on a $50 per month apprentice basis.

Tentative plans for next year will place one or two apprentices in the water department, one at the sewage disposal plant, one in the light plant, and two or three more in the city engineering department.

* * *

More States Act to Aid Libraries

– State aid

Michigan has passed an act appropriating $500,000 annually for state aid to public libraries. Three other state legislatures-- in Arkansas, Ohio and Vermont-- have made biennial appropriations for state-wide public library development on the basis of a large unit of service.

Michigan's appropriation is divided between an equalization fund for a new library service and aid to libraries already in operation, with a small sum for administration by the state library, which a companion act placed under a non-partisan board. Arkansas appropriated $100,000 for the biennium-- $35,400 to re-establish work of the state library commission; $64,600 for state aid for county and regional libraries. Ohio appropriated $150,000 for two years to aid qualified public libraries, at discretion of the state library board. Vermont set aside $25,000 to develop regional library service and to coordinate the work of small libraries.

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P. A. C. H.
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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE 1937
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois Release No.1: For Mon., Aug. 16

Cities Face Heavy Responsibilities Under New Housing Program

An entirely new type of public housing program will be launched in this country if the national housing legislation passed by the Senate and now the No. 1 bill on the Congress "must" list is enacted before adjournment. Hitherto only one city housing authority (New York City's) has developed a project on its own initiative, all the rest being built by the Federal Government. The new program will compel local housing authorities to take complete responsibility for all steps in project development and management while the Government plays the role of banker and supervisor. Likewise, cities must share financial burdens with the central government.

As cities and states wake up to their possible new responsibilities two questions rise in the public mind: What will be the scope of the new housing program if it is inaugurated; and what will the localities have to do to fulfill their obligations?

Information furnished by the National Association of Housing Officials indicates in a general way how much housing could be constructed within the next few years if local authorities can overcome their initial difficulties. The Public Works Administration has approved 42 projects which could not proceed because sufficient funds were not available to the Housing Division of PWA. In addition 13 projects were approved and abandoned because sites could not be acquired.

If the United States Housing Authority authorized by the Wagner-Steagall Bill approves these projects it is thus possible that 55 of them might be started during the first few years of the new program. At an average of $2,000,000 per project this would amount to $110,000,000. It is evident that many more entirely new projects would have to be initiated to use the $700,000,000 appropriated by the Wagner-Steagall Bill. Out of the projects listed above, five are located in New York State, six in Illinois, and eight in Ohio.

(MORE)

As to administrative problems under the new program, satisfactory state enabling legislation is essential to handling it properly. Thirty states have enacted such laws which are generally known as "housing authorities laws."

Local housing authorities are the next step. There are about 47 of these authorities. In the third place, authorities must be furnished with adequate administrative budgets and personnel. Only a handful of housing authorities in this country are in a position to inaugurate the construction of housing projects within the next six months, according to the National Association of Housing Officials. Planning of large scale housing projects requires extensive studies of a city planning nature. Few cities have at hand sufficient information about such subjects as land use and facilities for transportation, education, and recreation to permit selection of sites for projects that are designed to serve a useful purpose without major changes over a period of at least sixty years.

Up to now PWA has constructed fifty-one projects costing $132,000,000, providing accomodations for 21,775 families. The subsidy was paid at the outset and will amount to all the cost that is not returned as rent. The Resettlement Administration also has constructed projects, contributing as subsidy whatever portion of the cost is not recouped eventually from income. The new program is designed to reach the great body of "ill-housed" (estimated at 1/3 of the population) and based on the assumption that private industry cannot build adequate new dwellings for this group and rent them for the price that group can pay. The proposed governmental subsidy would be paid as a way of reducing the rent; that is, to meet the differential between what the buildings should rent for to return their cost and what the low income tenants are able to pay.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.2: For Tues., Aug. 17

Police Seek Curb on Tow-Car Racket Using Short-Wave Radio

The "tow-car" racket, by which wreckers, racing to the scene of an automobile accident not only violate speed laws but victimize persons involved in accidents, is bringing action in certain cities, reports to the International Association of Chiefs of Police show.

In Providence, R.I., for instance, the Bureau of Police and Fire has received complaints from car owners involved in accidents that, when they are released from the hospital they find their automobiles in the hands of garagemen who demand exorbitant fees, even when the car has been removed without the owner's permission. The situation came to a head when police arrived at the scene of an accident to find six tow-cars blocking the highway and impeding the investigation.

A police inquiry ensued, and it was found that some garages in the city were equipped with police radio receiving sets. Tow-cars were placed near garage doors, just as fire-trucks in fire stations, to make a quick get-away upon accident alarms. Since Providence police cannot control the use of the short-wave radio, they seek a way to curb the racket, under direction of Special Prosecutor Donald O. Burke, of the Bureau of Police and Fire. Two procedures are contemplated:

1. Arresting those tow-car operators who drive their machines at a higher rate of speed than is allowed by law.

2. Invoking an old "stand by" order if the garagemen attempt to interfere with investigation of an accident. Under this order such interference is a chargeable offense.

Evanston, Ill. had the same trouble, with tow-cars from several garages staging a race to get the job every time a wreck occurred. Finally the city asked for bids on all towing jobs and awarded the contract to the lowest bidder.

Cities have experienced the speed part of the same problem with ambulances. Fort Worth, Tex. acted when a boy was killed because six private ambulance firms were racing to an accident scene. A zoning plan to limit each company to calls near its station was defeated, but emergency speed limits were cut down. Evanston, Ill. adopted a simpler plan -- arresting ambulance drivers for reckless driving.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.3: For Wed., Aug. 18

States Jump Advertising as Tourist Competition Grows

The tourist and vacation industry has come into the realm of "big business" among the states, the Council of State Governments finds, with advertising appropriations to date for the 1937 fiscal year aggregating more than $2,000,000. Twenty-eight states have made official appropriations, the largest single amount being set aside by Pennsylvania at $500,000, although this amount is for a biennial period.

The other sums range from Kentucky's $4,000 to be spent solely for printing by the State Department of Conservation to Washington's $250,000 set aside for the Washington State Progress Commission.

Nine new states have joined the publicity parade this year, advertising their vacation and tourist charms to lure some of the hundreds of millions spent annually for these purposes by an increasingly mobile population. Among these new states are Colorado (creating the State Bureau of Information and Publicity and appropriating $150,000 for the biennium); Iowa (with $5,000 set aside for the Greater Iowa Commission); Michigan (appropriating $300,000 for advertising through June 30, 1939 to be divided among three tourists associations); Oklahoma (creating the Oklahoma State Travel and Tourist Bureau, working through the Oklahoma Highway Commission, to expend $100,000 for 1938-39); Nevada (a new state Board of Publicity with $2,500 for a two-year period); New Jersey (with $150,000 for the State Council); Arkansas (setting up a state Publicity Advisory Commission with an allotment of $12,000).

Many other states which long have conducted organized advertising and publicity campaigns, are increasing their appropriations.

As the competition for tourists grows among the states, two of them known as vacation and "health-havens" (California and Florida) spend no public funds to publicize their attractions. Alex A. McCurdy, State Publicity Agent of New York, points out in the August State Government, publication of the Council of State Governments. However, civic and community groups in these states spend large sums for the purpose. For instance, in 1936, two civic organizations of California spent $620,000 on national advertising campaigns, with tourist and vacationist returns estimated at $150,000,000 in that year.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.4: For Thurs., Aug. 19

Finance Officers to Meet in Boston Sept. 13

The thirty-second annual municipal finance conference will take place in Boston, Mass. Monday, Sept. 13 through Thursday, Sept. 16, it was announced today from the Municipal Finance Officers' Association headquarters in Chicago. Hundreds of delegates from this country and Canada will discuss finance problems ranging all the way from municipal revenues to waterworks accounting.

Governor Charles F. Hurley, of Massachusetts and Mayor Frederick W. Mansfield of Boston, will welcome delegates at the opening session in Faneuil Hall. The response will be given by Charles J. Fox, City Auditor, Boston, and President D. P. Turnbull of M.F.O.A., will deliver the opening address.

Addresses will then be heard on municipal revenues, pensions and civil service in practice, and the purpose and value of municipal audits. Respective speakers will be Mark Graves, President, the New York State Tax Commission; Herbert Fallin, Budget Director, Baltimore Md.; and F. H. Elwell, Director, School of Commerce, the University of Wisconsin.

The Tuesday (Sept. 14) program will have the following subjects and leaders: "Civil Service, Personnel Administration and Pensions," A. E. Neale; "Accounting: General--Payroll--Machine," John Lindsay; "Municipal Reporting," Edward Glick; "Practical Accounting for Small Cities," J. W. Prather; "Debt Administration and Debt Records," L. E. Maples; "Tax Limitations and Homestead Exemptions," Charles J. Fox; "Long Term Financial Planning," George P. Gordon; "Tax Collection Methods and Procedure," Walter Fitzpatrick.

On Wednesday, John Pearson, Regional Director, Social Security Board at Boston, will speak on "Social Security--Its Local Implications," and an address will be given by Arthur Collins, Financial Advisor to Local Authorities, London, England. Roy Knox, Director, Bureau of Budget and Efficiency, Los Angeles, Calif. will talk on "A Municipal Budget System."

On Thursday the special financial problems of cities of all sizes will be discussed, after which Aubrey Williams, Deputy Administrator, W.P.A. will speak on federal relief. A. E. Buck and Arthur Collins will address the final banquet session.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1937
Release No.5: For Fri., Aug. 20

Report Lists 80 "First Principles" of Tax Assessing

The eighty fundamental principles of tax assessment are outlined in the newly-published report of the Committee on Principles of Assessment Practice of the National Association of Assessing Officers. The report is a 100-page volume which elaborates and explains each of the eighty principles in the effort to set up standards to check on the adequacy of assessment organization.

The role of the assessor himself occupies a large part of the committee's report, in addition to the chapters having to do with assessment of property in general, assessment of real property, assessment of personal property and review and equalization.

The following are among the principles laid down for the assessor:

1. He should be appointed from among candidates certified as to fitness by a competent and impartial agency.
2. He should have power to appoint and to remove his subordinates, subject to such reasonable control by constituted personnel agencies as may be prescribed by law.
3. He should be removable from office before the expiration of his term, but only for cause stated in writing and, if requested by him, only after a public hearing.
4. His compensation should take the form of a fixed annual salary, which should be adequate to attract qualified persons to office and to permit them to devote full time to their official duties.
5. He should be advised and supervised in his work by the state tax department.
6. His training, as well as that of his subordinates, should be continued through the medium of state and national organizations, conferences and training schools.
7. He should adhere strictly to the laws as enacted by legislative bodies and interpreted by the courts.
8. He should give consideration to all factors affecting the market value of property.
9. His primary objective should be the assessment of all taxable property uniformly and at full value unless otherwise required by law.
10. He should not engage in roll copying or in wholesale horizontal adjustments of the previous year's roll.
11. He, and not the taxpayer, should determine the assessment.
12. The assessor's powers should be commensurate with his duties.
13. He should be provided with accurate tax maps covering the entire assessment district.
14. He should compile and utilize sales and other data from which the combined value of land and improvements can be estimated.
15. He should provide himself with contour, land utilization and soil maps or sketches covering all rural land parcels in his assessment district.

Part II of the volume is the final report of the Committee on Assessment Terminology of the N.A.A.O., and Part III is a selected bibliography under the title, "Study Guide for Assessing Officers."

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.6: For Sat., Aug. 21

Pre-trial Hearings Tested to Speed Court Calendars

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Pre-trial hearings to expedite court calendars have been adopted in Los Angeles, reports Public Management, publication of the International City Managers' Association. The procedure originated in Detroit a few years ago, and has proved successful in Boston in the last two years.

Los Angeles sets cases for preview about two weeks in advance of trial. No transcript of the discussion is taken, but afterward the judge dictates a memo of the proceedings which becomes a part of the official files of the case.

The Suffolk County (Boston) Superior Court finally disposed of 58 per cent of cases coming before it in the first three months of 1937. Of 2,195 cases on the pre-trial list, 530 were settled at the pre-trail call, and of those ordered to the trial list, 315 more were settled before getting on the list. Pre-trial hearings have been extended to one-judge courts in smaller Massachusetts counties.

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Legislators Get Salary Raises

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Legislators' salaries have been increased in several states, the Council of State Governments reports. Illinois raised legislative salaries from $3,500 to $5,000 per biennium. New Mexico will vote at a special election September 21, on a proposal to increase the salaries from $5 to $10 a day. In Pennsylvania, the increase was from $2,500 to $3,000 for a regular session and from $500 for a special session to $750 if the special session lasts more than 30 days.

A proposed constitutional amendment in Tennessee would jump legislators' salaries from $4 to $10 a day and extend their terms from two to four years. The governor's term also would be extended to four years.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1937
Release No.1: For Mon., Aug. 23

Editors: Watch your Washington wires for changes in the housing legislation status.

City Planning Held Vital To Success of New Housing Program

City halls in many American cities soon will be scanning provisions of the national housing program, if it is set up as legislative reports from Washington indicate. Cities will want to determine what federal assistance they can get, and what the legislative guide lines are for pointing up a local housing project. And one vital phase of the housing program which thus far has challenged little attention is its city planning aspect.

Cities which have city plan commissions, or which have power under their state laws to establish such bodies, have a valuable tool immediately at hand to assist in launching housing programs, the American Society of Planning Officials points out. These planning commissions, indeed, are considered absolutely indispensable to properly conceived housing projects by some administrators.

The local housing authorities which would be set up under the federal housing program must proceed in scientific fashion to lay down their plans for financing the program, for land acquisition, site-planning, layout and design of the dwelling units, supervision of construction, rent schedules, general operation and management. Certain facts must be known if each locally-independent housing authority hopes to achieve permanent success for its housing project. The community's known social, economic and physical factors have direct bearing upon housing project success.

For instance, the local authority should determine the extent of the housing need among the group to be re-housed; and the availability of land, large enough in area and low enough in price for low-cost housing accomodations. Sites for housing projects should be studied in their relation to employment sources, schools, shops, and transportation facilities.

The logical place to look for such data is the city plan commission. Planners recommend that the city examine its plan commission to see whether it is properly staffed and with sufficient funds to handle these added duties. Walter H. Blucher, executive director, American Society of Planning Officials, says that the aid to local housing authorities and the scientific base provided for housing activities in general will be only one of the many direct and indirect local benefits from a properly functioning city plan commission.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1937
Release No.2: For Tues., Aug. 24

States Fight "Runaway Marriages" Caused by New Hygienic Laws

Evasion of marriage laws in the Central West, springing from the new Illinois and Wisconsin hygienic marriage laws and resulting in a mushroom growth of new Gretna Greens in neighboring states, dramatizes a situation which exists in other parts of the country, the Council of State Governments points out.

These two states, acting as the national drive against social infection reached its peak, will issue no license without a physician's certificate that the marrying couple is free from venereal disease. However, in the neighboring states of Indiana and Iowa, licenses can be obtained upon application, with restrictions only against minors. Such towns as Crown Point, Ind. as a result, are doing a land-office business in "runaway marriages."

The extent of evasion may be judged from the fact that in one mid-western city, Chicago, the mid-summer averages of licenses issued by the county clerk dropped from 140 to 45 a day. This situation has led to a movement among Illinois courts urging that other middle western states follow the lead of Illinois and Wisconsin on hygienic marriage laws. Some judges have refused to recognize runaway marriages, citing the Illinois 1915 uniform marriage evasion statute which provides that a marriage outside the state by a person disabled or prohibited from contracting a marriage within it shall be null and void.

At common law, marriages valid where contracted were generally held valid everywhere. However, approximately eighteen states have marriage evasion statutes, and at least five have the uniform marriage evasion act. This act carries the above-mentioned section for Illinois and another section specifying that the state shall contract no marriage for a person from another state if such marriage should be void under the laws of that other state.

Latest available statistics show that, besides Connecticut, Wisconsin and Illinois, New Hampshire and Oregon now require blood tests for social disease before marriage. Oregon's is subject to popular referendum at the next election. Alabama, Louisiana, North Dakota and Wyoming require a medical certificate from the male applicant. Twenty-three states make it unlawful for a person with social disease to marry, but do not require a certificate. New York and a few other states require affidavits. Montana's pre-marital examination law was defeated at referendum.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1937
Release No.3: For Wed., Aug. 25

States Near Complete Score on Social Security Laws

The states are rapidly approaching a complete score in passing state legislation for the social security program, according to information furnished by the American Public Welfare Association. If the universal goal for the plan were reached, it would find all the states and territories with approved laws fitting into the national program for unemployment compensation, old-age assistance, aid to the blind and aid to dependent children.

The record on approved unemployment compensation laws is now 100 per cent for all 48 states and three territories. With recent approval of the new Missouri and Illinois laws, nearly 21,000,000 workers are covered under this provision.

Old-age assistance plans have been approved in 50 jurisdictions; aid to the blind, in 36; and aid to dependent children, in 37. Plans for all three types of public assistance have the Social Security Board's sanction in 34 states; Virginia is the only state without a single approved plan.

In addition, the U.S. Children's Bureau has approved maternal and child welfare service plans of 25 states; child welfare service plans of 16 states, and plans for services to crippled children in 8 states.

Amendments and revisions in state social security laws were necessary in several instances to meet Social Security Board standards. The revised Colorado old-age assistance plan is unique in establishing an age requirement of only 60 years for 35-year residents of the state, and a minimum monthly payment of $45 per month, minus income. Brought about by constitutional amendment supplemented by statutory action, the $45 minimum payment can legally be lessened if state funds prove insufficient. The Federal contribution of $15 per month can be applied only on payments to persons over 65.

Revising and amending their plans for old-age assistance and aid to the blind, several states softened eligibility requirements. Some states have removed all citizenship requirements for both aged and blind dependents, and have extended eligibility to inmates of private institutions. Under a number of old-age assistance plans, property provisions have been liberalized by exempting the rental value of the home from income deduction, thus permitting continued ownership of real estate occupied as a residence. Besides Colorado's reduction of the minimum age requirement for old-age assistance to 60, Oregon made a reduction from 70 to 65, leaving only six states with the minimum eligibility age of 70. These are: Florida, Indiana, Michigan, Missouri, New Hampshire and Pennsylvania.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1 9 3 7
Release No.4: For Thurs., Aug. 26

Cities Urged to Rout "Charity Concept" of Public Payroll

The public, not to mention municipal officials themselves, must be brought to realize that the community is buying services, not distributing largess.

This is one of the recommendations of a committee of the International City Managers' Association on "Career Service in Local Government" in a report just published. This proposal is advanced as a vitally important step toward abolishing one of the principal obstacles to such a career service-- the deep-seated "charity concept" of the public payroll.

The committee thus defines "charity concept:" "In the code of the spoilsman it means that local jobs should go to his own henchmen; in the philosophy of the non-partisan adherent of the concept it means that the public payroll should be used to provide work for the local unemployed." In depression periods, the report finds that it is sometimes difficult to draw the line between permanent public positions and those jobs which are temporarily established to alleviate depressed conditions in private employment; but that work relief must not be confused with regular public employment.

"When this is clearly understood," the report says, "it will be appreciated that if the taxpayer's money is to be wisely spent, the public job must go to the best available man, regardless of his residence. 'The Man For The Job and Not the Job For The Man' is a slogan which deserves acceptance by every community. Thus the correction of this one fallacy will be instrumental in undermining both the spoils philosophy and the local boy prejudice."

The committee finds that America does not have an integrated local government service. "This means," its report finds, "that the problem of establishing careers must of necessity be considered strictly along individual city lines until the 'local boy' prejudice can be battered down."

Committee members are: R. M. Dorton, chairman, City Manager of Long Beach, Calif.; G. Lyle Belsley, Director, Civil Service Assembly; F. R. Buechner, City Manager, Piqua, O.; Louis Brownlow, Director, Public Administration Clearing House; John M. Gaus, Professor of Public Administration, University of Wisconsin; Luther Gulick, Director, Institute of Public Administration; Clifford W. Ham, Executive Director, American Municipal Association; C. A. Harrell, City Manager, Schenectady, N. Y.; Charles E. Merriam, Chairman, Political Science Department, University of Chicago; Neville Miller, Mayor, Louisville, Ky.; William E. Mosher, Director, School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, Syracuse University; Leonard D. White, Professor of Public Administration, University of Chicago, and the committee secretary, Lyman S. Moore, of the International City Managers' Association.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1937
Release No.5: For Fri., Aug. 27

Secretaries of State to Meet in San Antonio

The 48 secretaries of state, whose duties range from administering motor vehicle laws to approving new trade-marks, will hold their twentieth annual conference in San Antonio, Tex., Sept. 22-25, the Chicago secretariat of the National Association of Secretaries of State announced today.

Heading the four-day program as speakers will be Governor James V. Allred, of Texas; Edward Clark, Secretary of State of Texas; C. K. Quin, mayor of San Antonio, and Theodore Dammann, Secretary of State of Wisconsin, president of the Association.

Important among the subjects for general discussion will be the improvement of state manuals. Although every state issues some form of general legislative manual, and a third of them publish "blue books" for the information of the public, the variety of presentation and data is seen as a great drawback to intelligent interpretation. Adequate biographies of executive and judicial officers, break-down of election statistics, complete financial statistics, and information on local governments are often found lacking. To remedy this situation, governmental students have suggested that the preparation of state manuals be made the function of a single state official, possibly the secretaries of the states. Dwight H. Brown, Secretary of State of Missouri, will address the conference on "The Ideal State Manual," and will present the report of the NASS standing committee on state publications, of which he is chairman.

Possibilities of uniform election procedure and of uniform trade-mark and trade-name legislation will have a place on the second day's program. Frederic Cook, Secretary of State of Massachusetts, and Doris I. Byrne, executive deputy secretary of the State of New York, have been invited to speak on these respective subjects. A talk on interstate cooperation will be made by Henry W. Toll, executive director of the Council of State Governments, on the third day, followed by round-table discussion. Also scheduled is an address by W. P. Blackwell, Secretary of State of South Carolina, concerning tax legislation on non-profit corporations. Following the business session on the final day of the conference, the state secretaries will make a post-convention trip to Mexico City.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1937
Release No.6: For Sat., Aug. 28

400 Agencies Engage Governmental Researchers, Directory Shows

Four hundred agencies and institutions in this country engage more than 1,000 research directors and technicians to study operating and administrative problems of local, state and national government, according to the Governmental Research Association, which has just published the 1937 edition of its annual "Directory of Organizations Engaged in Governmental Research."

The directory lists governmental research agencies in all of the 48 states, and in Canada and Hawaii.

Of the agencies included in the directory 122 concentrate on governmental problems of the cities in which they are located. Among them are bureaus of municipal research, taxpayers' association, citizens' leagues maintaining research staffs, and municipal reference libraries.

Nearly 200 agencies are included in the "state section" of the Directory. These make state-wide studies of local government and report on operating and financial problems of their respective states. This group includes 85 universities and colleges in which professors of public administration and other faculty members are engaged in governmental research projects.

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Sound Films Held Legal Evidence

Motion picture cameras are becoming a firm ally of police. Movies taken of intoxicated automobile drivers prove their point without further argument; instructions to police recruits in training can be strengthened by such visualization. Los Angeles police, according to reports received by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, are first to use and gain judicial approval of sound motion pictures as admissible evidence of a defendant making a confession to police officers. Chief Justice Marshall F. McComb of the Los Angeles District Court of Appeals, decided such evidence is admissible, if, after a preliminary investigation, the judge is satisfied that the sound motion picture reproduces accurately that which has been said or done, and that the confession is made freely and voluntarily without hope of immunity or promise of reward.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7 - Aug 30.
Release No.1: For Immediate Release

City Action Now on Airports Urged to Save "Skyways of Future"

The public demand for better airports in three of the nation's largest cities--New York, Chicago and Washington-- focuses attention on a problem cities must face now if they expect to be important links in the skyways of the future, the American Municipal Association said today. Larger "luxury liners," increased traffic and heavier airmails occasionally overtax the inadequate facilities of airports to the danger point, it was said, and if cities mean to enlarge or relocate their airports, some uniform plan must be devised to preserve the unity of the civil airways system.

The cities' airport problem is being considered at the meeting of the executive committee of the American Municipal Association this week-end in Chicago, and the subject will be discussed at the A.M.A. conference at the Blackstone Hotel in Chicago, Oct. 13-15. Municipal airport operators will relate their experiences, and interested aviation experts are being invited to attend.

Cities' demands for airport development vary. New York City, for instance, has before it a plan advanced by Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia for a super-airport at North Beach, Queens, to cost $12,762,500 for initial work and designed both for land and seaplanes. Chicago has sought to expand its present port, to shift an adjacent railroad right-of-way and is considering still another proposal to lay out a new port on made land jutting into the lakefront.

The Washington airport for years has been admittedly inadequate and commercial pilots recently notified the Department of Commerce that they refused further to "assume responsibility" for landings and take-offs there. Washington Airport has only one adequate runway, and it is intersected by a public road.

Washington's problem is not unique. Few cities in this country have adequate runways or other facilities to take the projected luxury liners, some of which are 40-passenger, 60,000-pound ships, with flying speeds of 240 m.p.h. and landing speeds

(MORE)

of 68 m.p.h. They will require wide paved runways of 4,000 to 5,000 feet when they go, as planned, into transcontinental service in 1938. Few cities have such runways, even those with the nation's largest airports.

For instance, Pittsburgh's longest runway is 3,500 feet; Boston's, 4,000; Flushing, N.Y.'s, 3,000; Columbus, Ohio's, 3,500; San Francisco's, 3,000 and Los Angeles's, 3,650. Governmental aeronautic experts assert that cities must start planning now if they wish a place on the future air-map.

Representatives from municipalities in all sections of the country gathered at the American Municipal Association's Chicago conference, will consider the bald fact that although they have already spent many millions and now face heavy future costs to modernize their airports, their ports have never been self-supporting. Moreover, it is a thorn in the cities' side that much air traffic is interstate in character, and that few of the benefits from their heavy investments flow to them individually.

The cities have a real stake in the nation's airways. An A.M.A. survey shows that thirty-eight cities, large and small, have invested a total of $54,198,614 in their airports and spend $1,550,087 annually for their upkeep.

Of the more than 2,000 airports and landing facilities in the continental United States, 475 are classified as municipal airports. About 200 of these, representing an investment of several hundred million dollars, are used as terminal facilities on the Civil Airways System, a web having 98 city-to-city links, and which covers the entire map.

The federal government has licensing power over ship, pilots and airports for the national civil airways and interstate service. The states have local supervision and policing of air transportation and the designing, construction, maintenance and operation. State legislatures this year have showed alertness to the pressing airport problem. Idaho's new law permits municipalities to acquire up to 1280 acres of land for port purposes; Nebraska set aside $8,500 for an airport survey and $6000 for airmarking the state; Florida counties received the right to acquire airports; Tennessee created an aeronautics board and appropriated to that board the tax paid on aviation gasoline; Utah declared airport operation a public purpose, and allowed issuance of bonds and levying of taxes for airports with the airplane gas tax to be used for airport improvement; Illinois gave Chicago power to construct a port; California and Colorado created state aeronautical boards.

Meanwhile, two new boards, the Airways Operation Advisory Committee and the Bureau of Air Commerce Advisory Committee are working with federal agencies in Washington in the effort to set up a more definite and complete program to which the states and their municipalities may gear their plans for future development of the nation's airways.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.2: For Tues., Aug. 31

Assessment methods

Cities Without Tax Maps Losing Thousands Yearly, Report Finds

Although real estate is always within view, cannot be removed, stolen or concealed, innumerable parcels are left off the assessment rolls, causing losses running into the thousands of dollars annually for many cities, according to a report issued today by the National Association of Assessing Officers. The fixed quality of real estate leads to the erroneous belief that all of it, except that legally exempted, is assessed and taxed, the report points out. The reason much property today goes unassessed is, in a phrase: "No tax maps."

Where accurate tax maps are not available, the assessor must rely on his memory and the previous year's assessment rolls, with results that are sometimes startling. The NAAO report not only points this out, but explains clearly how tax maps should be constructed and used to best advantage.

Aerial photography, a science that has made great strides within the last decade, is one of the most popular methods of tax mapping today. Experienced aviators fly the area to be mapped under the direction of professional aerial photographers. The plane is flown back and forth in strips, similar to the course of a lawnmower, the camera shutter clicking at regular, specified intervals. The air-pictures are enlarged and used singly or combined into mosaics. Property lines are delineated upon the pictures to complete the property record.

Aerial tax maps are quickest and cheapest, but for a high degree of accuracy, especially where land values are highest, the ground survey is still recommended.

Illustrating the evils where tax maps are non-existent and the benefits immediately arising when they are instituted, the NAAO report, entitled "Construction and Use of Tax Maps," offers some startling figures. For instance, East Haddam, Conn., built up its tax roll by 1,432 acres after completing an aerial tax map; Watertown, N.Y., discovered 100 parcels of land not previously assessed, valued at $77,600; Andover, Mass. found that an estate originally listed as 36 acres, from which 37 acres had been sold off in three transactions, actually contained 47 acres, 11 of them going unassessed for nearly half a century.

The report also explains in detail how tax maps may be secured, used and preserved.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1937
Release No.3:
For Morning papers Wed., Sept. 1

Governmental Research Winners Announced at Cornell Conference

Ithaca, N.Y.-- J. Lyle Cunningham, of the Department of Budget and Research of the County of Los Angeles, is winner of the 1936 award competition of the Governmental Research Association, it was announced at the annual business meeting last night (Tues. Aug. 31) during the Association's annual conference, which is being held on the Cornell campus here. Mr. Cunningham received the award for his report on the administration of medical care to those on relief in Los Angeles County, Calif.

The report on public recreation in Cleveland, made by Leyton Carter, director of the Cleveland Foundation, and the report on testing policemen in Detroit, made by J.M. Leonard, of the Detroit Bureau of Governmental Research, received honorable mention in the competition.

Judges in the competition were: William Anderson, head of the political science department, University of Minnesota; Willard F. Day, county manager of Henrico County, Va., and the late Clyde L. King, of the Wharton School of Finance and Commerce.

Mr. Cunningham's report was typical of those entered in the competition in that it dealt with a specific problem in a particular community and contained definite recommendations for its solution. The Association's award is restricted to its membership, and under the terms of the competition is made on the basis of "the most noteworthy piece of research completed during the preceding calendar year."

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Police - Cincinnati

Cincinnati Launches New Safety Patrol

Cincinnati's new safety patrol has swung into action, reports "Public Management," publication of the International City Managers' Association. Under the new arrangement, the entire traffic function is under a single head, with office work centralized. Twenty-nine motorcycle officers previously working on a district basis, and members of the foot patrol on traffic duty in congested downtown districts, have been assigned to the safety patrol. Spot maps indicate dangerous areas, which will receive particular attention. Police radio instructions will govern both cars and motorcycles.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1 9 3 7
Release No. 4: For Thurs., Sept. 2

State govt.

New "Book of the States" a Sourcebook on State Government Today

Who are our governors, their aides, the Secretaries of States, the Attorney-Generals, and the many state administrative officials performing functions ranging from agriculture to workmen's compensation? What are the terms, salaries, manner of election and functions of the leading state officials? Who are in the 48 legislatures, what are their salaries and when do they meet? What is the status of blue sky laws, and drivers' license laws? Where has the interstate cooperation movement arrived in its rapid progress? What is the Council of State Governments and who are its moving spirits?

These and countless other questions are answered in the "Book of the States," publication of which is announced today by the Council of State Governments. The book, printed in two volumes, is at once a valuable handbook for public officials and a sourcebook for the lay reader of state information nowhere else obtainable in such compact form.

Part I of the volume, entitled "Intergovernmental Cooperation," deals with the history of the movement among the states to solve their common problems by united action. This section also contains an exhaustive description of organizations in the field of government.

Part II, called "A Handbook of the States," carries rosters of the chief elective officers of each state, lists of legislators and standing committees, and 48 sections of two pages each, preceded by comparative tables concerning the various states.

Of particular interest is the section of the book dealing with the experiences of District 2 of the Council of State Governments. District 2 has its secretariat in New York City. States in the district are New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Delaware. This district is considered a model demonstration of advancement of the "technique of interstate government." The scope of this movement is indicated by the fact that in this eastern area the states, acting through their individual Commissions on Interstate Cooperation, have tackled problems of infinite variety including highway safety and the house trailer, social security and transient relief, state parks, banking, liquor control, conservation, flood control, pollution and water diversion.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1 9 3 7
Release No.5: For Fri., Sept. 3

Public works- Conferen

Public Works Congress to Open in Atlanta

Engineers and officials from all sections of the country engaged in public works activities on local, state and federal levels will gather in Atlanta, Ga., Oct. 4-6 for the 1937 Public Works Congress, the American Public Works Association announced today from its Chicago headquarters.

Turning attention from the emergency, "made-work" problems linked with local public works programs in recent years, the public works officials at Atlanta will concern themselves with technical problems in operation and administration.

Speakers listed on the program are: Mike Singleton, consulting engineer, Atlanta, on "Atlanta's Program of Sewage Treatment Plant Construction;" Fred Storer, city engineer, Dearborn, Mich., on "The Planning Task in the Smaller City;" J. D. Webb, city engineer, Birmingham, Ala., on "Birmingham"s Industrial Water Supply;" J. Eugene Root, director of public works, Cincinnati, O., "The Administration of Public Services during a Great Flood;" H. J. Cates, chief of sanitation department, Atlanta, on "Operation of Atlanta's Incinerator;" and Albert P. Learned, consulting engineer, Kansas City, on "Establishment of Rates for Small Municipal Utilities."

A symposium on needed research in street paving practice will include as participants: H. F. Clemmer, engineer of materials, Washington, D.C., on concrete; J. T. Pauls, senior highway engineer, U.S. Bureau of Public Roads, on bituminous materials, and Roy Phillips, city engineer, Meadville, Penna., on brick. There will also be two panel discussions--one on refuse collection, the other on personnel problems.

First drafts of manuals of practice on street cleaning and refuse collection and disposal, which are being prepared under auspices of the American Public Works Association, will be discussed at the conference.

Membership of the American Public Works association consists of approximately a thousand persons, chiefly administrators and technicians engaged in the planning, construction, operation, and maintenance of streets, bridges, sidewalks, sewers, refuse collection and disposal, traffic engineering, waterworks, electric and gas plants, etc. Thomas Buckley, Philadelphia, is president of the organization; J. Eugene Root, Cincinnati, first vice-president; Guy Brown, St. Louis, second vice-president, and John S. Flockhart, Newark, N.J., treasurer.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1 9 3 7
Release No.6: For Sat., Sept. 4

Police - Reporting

"Crime Diary" Urged To Modernize Police Services

Uniform record-keeping, furnishing a virtual "diary of crime and detection," plays an important role in recommendations for modernizing city police departments made by Public Administration Service, governmental consultants, here today. Following a requested survey at Greenwich, Conn., the Service is issuing a guidebook for that suburban city's police department which deals with police problems also confronting many other cities.

A modern police records system like the new one in Greenwich, which is consistent with that recommended by the Committee on Uniform Crime Records of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, serves as an auditing agency over every branch of police business," says the guidebook. Among its functions are: control over the investigation of crimes and other procedures, to prevent investigations being dropped without adequate review; reports showing the amount of crime, the proportion of offenses cleared by arrest; statistical analyses showing the time of day, week, and season at which offenses are committeed, and the particular location of crimes; the complete personnel records of the work of each officer; complete data on each accident that police investigate.

Keynote of the reporting system is the consolidated daily report, which each morning tallies the crime, accident, complaint and personnel conditions for the past 24 hours, with comparative information for the same day a year ago. A consolidated monthly report is important for showing crime tendencies and conditions, as well as the effectiveness of the department in coping with them. Standardization of the report forms throughout makes it possible to tie them in easily with the nation-wide system of uniform crime reporting operated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Other recommendations made for improvement of the Greenwich police system, many of which are being put into effect, include: (1) greater use of scientific crime detection facilities of outside agencies, such as the health department, the state police, the FBI and the New York City police department; (2) motorization of the foot patrol, allotting one instead of two police officers to each radio-equipped squad car; (3) selection of police force members on a merit basis; (4) installation of a two-way radio system.

During the course of the survey, also following recommendation, a traffic accident prevention bureau was installed for Greenwich by the Traffic Safety Division of the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.1: For Immediate Release

P. A. C. H.
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Slum Clearance Planning Vital Part of New Housing Program

The new United States housing program brings the slum clearance problem into sharp focus by the provision that local governments must eliminate sub-standard housing if they are to participate in federal grants. Although the predicted housing shortage is now upon us, and it is becoming harder and harder to find homes for persons displaced by demolition, housers believe that control, including demolition, must be part of any broad program for housing improvement, the National Association of Housing Officials said today.

Recent tenement fires in Philadelphia, New York City and Buffalo, and collapses of slum buildings in New York and Chicago, costing in the aggregate many lives, dramatize the slum evil and make it an emotional issue, with a wide public demand that "the slums must go."

Indeed, the emotional satisfactions of slum clearance have led some housing experts to warn against too much slum clearance undertaken too quickly under the new federal act, which requires slum clearance equal to new construction. The dangers feared from too hasty action are an aggravated housing shortage, an unjustified bolstering of land values and poorly located housing projects. A provision of the new act, however, defers application of the demolition requirement in times of acute shortage of housing facilities.

Four years' experiment with a somewhat inadequate housing program has confirmed housers in their belief in controlled demolition. Under federal work relief projects of C.W.A., E.R.A. and W.P.A. from Nov. 7, 1933 through Dec. 31, 1936, a total of 7,486 "useless and condemned structures" were demolished in this country at a total cost of $11,509,116. The sponsors' share of this cost was $1,135,372; the federal government's, $10,373,744. New York State alone tore down 1997 buildings, encompassing 11,404 "living units," at a cost of $3,439,488. While federal assistance for demolition was welcome locally, the revelation of the extent to which it could be usefully employed to eliminate unsafe and unsanitary housing reflected a shocking situation in many cities. Thousands of sub-standard housing units bear witness to years of inadequate control by local government.

There is a general recognition among various cities concerned in the new low-cost housing program that demolition should be part of a closely-knit plan for housing improvement. Most cities have ordinances dealing with buildings that menace public health and safety, and in many cities their actual demolition is permitted under the police power. The National Association of Housing Offcials points out that with the new emphasis on local action, it is imperative that communities crystalize their plans and provide for effective leadership to give demolition its proper place in the public housing program.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
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1937
Release No.2: For Tues., Sept. 7

Unemployment relief - Finance

Cities Facing Relief Crisis, Finance Experts Find

Although assessments have risen and tax collections improved, the nation's cities face a crisis in relief costs, the Municipal Finance Officers Association said today. Moreover, local financial planning is impossible, it was said, because the cities do not know how large their unemployment relief burden will be in the future, nor how much of the burden they must bear.

The relief plight of American cities will be taken up by the hundreds of municipal finance officials who will attend the Municipal Finance Conference next week (Sept. 13, 14, 15, 16) in Boston, Mass. The federal side of the question will be presented by Aubrey Williams, Deputy Administrator of W.P.A., who will talk on "The Future of Relief Expenditures." John Pearson, Regional Director in Boston of the Social Security Board, will discuss the local implications of social security. Delegates from cities of over 150,000 will talk relief at a round table session. And, adding an international touch, several Canadian officials will be present to tell how cities in Canada have managed the financial aspects of caring for the destitute and unemployed.

Three random instances are cited to show the relief problem facing local governments. In Cincinnati, O., for example, the problem has been thrown entirely on the city, and the governor's aid has been sought. In Lowell, Mass. (100,234 pop.) estimated relief expenditures are $2,000,000, of which the city will pay $500,000 or $600,000. Providence, R.I., for both direct relief and work relief will spend $200,000 more from city funds than it did in the previous year.

Other related factors enter into the struggle of the cities to maintain and improve their financial structures, municipal finance experts assert. One of these is the conflict between levels of government over the same revenue sources. It is felt that the cities will come out on the short end of the conflicting taxation problem.

Although national and state governments have, at least temporarily, assumed some of the relief responsibility, it is held that the relief acts passed must have a tremendous influence on local problems of finance and accounting, and that the new social welfare burdens will, in the last analysis, become a burden on municipal revenues.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.3: For Wed., Sept. 8

Insurance, Social - Legislation

Attorney-Generals To Discuss Social Security Laws at Kansas City Conference

The complex problems confronting state attorney-generals in the interpretation of their differing state social security laws will occupy the thirty-first annual meeting of the National Association of Attorney-Generals in Kansas City, Mo., September 27-28, it was announced today.

The conference program features as the key-note of the meeting an address by William J. Ellis, Commissioner, New Jersey Department of Institutions and Agencies, and Chairman of the Interstate Commission on Social Security of the Council of State Governments. Mr. Ellis will talk on state problems under the new social security program.

According to Raymond T. Nagle, director, Attorney-Generals' Division of the Council of State Governments: "The new state social security laws have been responsible for a growing volume of interpretive law, augmented largely through opinions of the attorney-generals. The need for a common understanding of fundamental concepts in the interpretation of the acts of the different states is imperative for the necessary interstate coordination of social security administration. This is particularly true in attempting to fix the responsibilities of the states when dealing with transients."

The situation is well illustrated, said Mr. Nagle, "by the problem of administering contemplated reciprocal agreements among the states in sharing costs of and in adjusting unemployment compensation for moving workers. The time spent in each state will influence the proportion which it will pay to an unemployed transient workman, and unless some uniformity of interpretation is achieved, a man may be held to have met all requirements by one state, while he may be ruled out by a different interpretation in another."

Attorney-General Roy McKittrick of Missouri will be host to the meeting of the national organization, president of which is Clyde R. Chapman, former Attorney-General of Maine. In addition to Mr. Ellis, program speakers include the following Attorney-Generals: Jack Holt, Arkansas; Byron G. Rogers, Colorado; Gaston L. Porterie, Louisiana; William S. Ervin, Minnesota; P.O. Sathre, North Dakota; MacQ. Williamson, Oklahoma; Clair Roddewig, South Dakota; and Orland S. Loomis, Wisconsin. Other speakers will include Matthias M. Orfield, Deputy Attorney-General of Minnesota; Ralph Campbell, Assistant Attorney-General of Oregon; Joseph E. Messerschmidt, Deputy Attorney-General of Wisconsin, and Henry W. Toll, executive director, Council of State Governments.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
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1 9 3 7
Release No.4: For Thurs., Sept. 9

50 Cities Build Auditoriums as Vital Civic Needs

A boom in the building of municipal auditoriums, now seen as essential civic undertakings rather than revenue-producing enterprises, is reported by the International City Managers' Association.

Within two years, nearly fifty cities, ranging in size from Primrose, Neb., population 210, to Kansas City, Mo., population 399,746, erected such public structures. Information from 18 of these cities shows these facts:

Slightly over one-third of their total cost was financed by PWA grants; only two cities received PWA loans as well. Remainder of the cost was met in most instances by bond issue. The total cost of the auditorium in 11 cities under 10,000 population was about $90,000. Among the larger cities, Houston's cost $1,337,000; Kansas City's, $6,500,000.

Most of the auditoriums were built for small communities. Only 12 of the cities were over 10,000 in population; 17 of them were under 1,000.

Besides the auditorium proper, the smaller cities usually provided space for city offices, a room or two to be used by private local organizations like the chamber of commerce and the Boy Scouts, and accommodation for library and recreation facilities. The Oklahoma City auditorium contains a little theatre seating 410, a convention room for 1,000, a section for art galleries, and 36,000 square feet in the basement for exhibits and banquets.

There is no uniformity of practice with regard to management or control of the auditorium, Public Management, publication of the International City Managers' Association, points out. An ordinance generally designates the managing authority, provides a schedule of fees, and outlines the policy for granting use of the building.

None of the cities reporting intends to operate the buildings to make money, but they hope to meet operating expenses. San Jose, Calif., the first eight months spent $15,196 to operate its auditorium; income was $11,946. Shawnee, Okla., the first year of operation, realized $3,557, while expenses were only $3,180.

Rate policies on use of the auditorium are not standardized. Mobridge, S.D., for example, charges $50 an evening for dances and theatrical performances. In Wayne, Neb., the rate for profit-making organizations is $25 a day, $15 for non-profit groups and $10 for school use. Alliance, Neb. has adopted a detailed schedule of fees ranging from $15 a day for religious or educational use to 30 per cent of admission receipts from commercial users. For farm meetings, conventions and non-commercial use of general community interest, the auditorium is free. The San Jose, Calif. ordinance simply sets up minimum rates of $75 a day from 8:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M., $100 from 6:00 P.M. to midnight, $150 for one day and evening, and $25 per day when moving in or out. In addition to these minimum rates, the city receives 10 per cent of the gross receipts up to $2,000 and 5 per cent in excess of $2,000. Local civic organizations sponsoring free admittance events are given a 50 per cent reduction, and free use can be permitted for "purely patriotic or public necessities."

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PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE 1937
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois Release No.5: For Fri., Sept. 10

Gambling - Regulation

State Courts Divided on "Bank Night" Legality, Survey Finds

Whether or not "bank nights" or "cash prize nights" are legitimate sugar plums for theaters to dangle before the movie-going public is still a matter of argument in the courts. According to results of a survey announced today by the American Municipal Association, state court decisions have been about equally divided between condemnation and approval of the practice.

The usual complaint brought in suits against bank night is that it constitutes a lottery, which is prohibited in most states, because there is a prize, a chance to win it, and consideration paid for the chance.

It is on the point of "consideration" that the court opinions vary, says the survey.

In Michigan, two cases brought by theater owners against rivals operating cash prize nights were decided against the defending theater owners, not on the lottery prohibition, but on the question of whether "consideration" was paid for the chances to win. The court held that the fact that a more or less valuable prize was to be given away was "consideration" enough for attendance at the theater, therefore an advantage unfair to the competitor. In a Medford, Mass. case, the plan was held to be a lottery violating a state law although all in attendance at the theater and others who wished could register their names in the weekly cash drawing. The court said the game did not cease to be a lottery simply because some players did not pay for their chances, so long as others (those who paid for seeing the movie) continued to pay.

In three other cases involving theaters in Iowa, New Hampshire and New York, the courts held that bank night was not a lottery. They were convinced that the scheme was operated by permitting persons outside the theater, not purchasing tickets, to participate without paying; therefore there was no "consideration."

The two lines of decisions in these and other cases discussed in the survey are entirely in conflict, it is pointed out. "None of the decisions have been made on any peculiar or unusual state of the law in any jurisdiction. Nor have any of the state laws attempted to define what form "consideration" must take to constitute a transfer of property by chance a lottery."

Municipalities, by ordinance or police regulation, might clarify the matter of "consideration" by defining it in its indirect as well as its direct character, the survey suggests, and by cumulative action have some effect upon state courts and their interpretation.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.6: For Sat., Sept. 11

Liquor traffic

States Consider Barmaids in Liquor Control Programs

The barmaid question is challenging states in their effort to shape workable liquor control programs, according to information furnished by the Council of State Governments. Several states this year have passed laws relating to barmaids, an innovation since the coming of repeal. California, for instance, prohibits girl or women bartenders with reservations if the woman in question is the wife of the proprietor. Rhode Island, on the other hand, bans women bartenders entirely.

In the Deep South, Louisiana's Supreme Court recently held that the city ordinance of De Ridder, La., making it unlawful for a barroom proprietor to employ or permit a woman or girl to work in the barroom was "not arbitrary or unreasonable." The law also bans musical instruments in the barroom.

Said Chief Justice O'Neill: "Members of the city council with their knowledge of local conditions and in their mature wisdom (perhaps having neither romance nor music in their souls) have seen fit to leave off only the women and song from the combination wine, women and song.... That ought to end the matter so far as the courts are concerned."

Centerline Curb Tested for 4-lane Highway Safety

Accident prevention

Several experiments with centerline curbs to separate opposing traffic on four-lane highways are reported to the American Public Works Association. Indiana and Michigan are making the most recent tests. Indiana is using a curb or island 4 feet wide at the base, 2 feet wide at the top, and it will rise 4 inches above the pavement. Colored concrete is being tested to determine the best color for visibility.

Michigan's experiment in cooperation with the U. S. Bureau of Public Roads, was abandoned after a two-week trial with centerline curbs varying from one to 7 inches in height. Engineers' verdict: The curbs were impractical under conditions in which they were installed. Curbs were constructed in alternate 500 feet sections with intervening sections of undivided highway.

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News Bulletin of
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For Immediate Release

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States Act on Liquor Laws as Repeal Nears 4th Birthday

Tennessee, one of the five remaining "dry" states, goes to the polls September 23 for a special referendum on the state's 28-year-old dry law. The referendum was authorized by the 1937 legislature. Thus, as national repeal nears its fourth birthday (Dec. 6), Tennessee becomes the last of a long series of states which have acted on their liquor laws within the year, the Council of State Governments said today.

If Tennessee votes wet, the legislature in turn must act to repeal the present prohibition law, and Governor Gordon Browning has promised to call a special session for this purpose, although, under the state's constitution, such an election is not binding upon the legislature. If the voters decide to retain prohibition, Tennessee will remain with Georgia, Kansas, Mississippi and Oklahoma as the states that do not have legal liquor.

None of the other four states, however, is completely "dry." Kansas was the last to join the "damp" class by approval of 3.2 per cent beer, effective May 1 this year. Stringent regulations make the Kansas beer law one of the most strictly enforced on the books. Georgians, at the polls June 8, defeated a proposal to repeal their 22-year old prohibition law, but beer and light wines are legal. Mississippi also has 3.2 beer and wine; Oklahoma 3.2 beer only.

Liquor regulations were liberalized or restricted within the year by legislature and voter in many states. Local option elections during the last calendar year increased the amount of dry territory in 15 states and decreased it in 8 according to the forthcoming issue of State Government, publication of the Council of State Governments. During the 1937 legislative year Alabama became the forty-third wet state, with a county option provision that counties voting wet would have state liquor stores; the first referendum March 10 showed 24 of the 67 counties voting wet. North Carolina permitted local option on county liquor stores by providing that elections can be called on petition of county commissioners or of 15 per cent of the voters. In addition to Georgia, California and South Dakota gave local authorities additional power over liquor matters. Michigan provided mandatory revocation of state liquor store licenses upon complaint of local governing bodies.

Missouri barred liquor importation from states which discriminate against Missouri-made beverages. North Dakota repealed its restrictions on liquor advertising. Vermont reduced the maximum alcoholic content of beer from 9 to 6 per cent.

On the matter of control, South Dakota's Secretary of Agriculture took over functions of the State Liquor Commission, which was abolished. North Carolina set up a new state board of alcoholic control, and Texas gave state liquor control board inspectors police power.

Laws requiring temperance instruction in schools were passed by Arkansas and Vermont, making about 20 such states. While California and Michigan tightened their laws against minors, California and Rhode Island banned women bartenders. A "sit down" drinking statute was repealed in Maryland, and Connecticut and Michigan passed laws permitting stand-up drinking in hotels, restaurants and clubs. Dance halls gained the right to sell liquor in New Mexico; but North Dakota prohibited dancing in or adjacent to places where intoxicating liquor is sold.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE 1937
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Trailerites Still Tax-free in Most Cities, Survey Finds

Trailer inhabitants--residents and vacationists--are now enjoying their best days, with respect to freedom from taxation for community services rendered, according to results of a survey announced today by the American Municipal Association. With the exception of a few scattered cities municipal authorities have made almost no attempt to tax the auto-crats of the folding breakfast table to help pay for fire and police protection and other services.

Several thousand American cities interested in the implications of taxation and other problems posed by the trailer, will send representatives to discuss the subject to the forthcoming conference of the American Municipal Association, in Chicago, October 13-15.

Two cities that have undertaken to tax the trailer citizen are Peoria Heights, Ill., population 3,000, and Virginia Beach, Virginia, population 2,000. The Illinois town collects a direct, annual tax of $50 from every trailer. Virginia Beach restricts all trailer location to authorized camps and demands from camp operators a license fee of $100 for the first five units or fewer; $25 for every additional five units or fewer. Both cities emphasize in their ordinances the obligation of the trailerite to contribute to the cost of community services.

Of 53 cities queried in the survey, 29 collect no tax whatsoever. Taxes in the other 24, except in Peoria Heights, are levied upon the trailer camp operator in the form of an annual license fee. This fee, for an average camp of 30 units, ranges from $4.80 in Phoenix, Ariz., to $225 in Virginia Beach. Eleven cities collect $15 or less, ten collect from $16 to $50. Pasadena, Calif. collects $165. Annual revenue from thirty units under the Peoria Heights plan would be $1,500.

The tax for local services levied as a camp license fee does not reach the bulk of the trailer population, since only 17 cities restrict location to authorized camps. Of the 36 cities permitting location at the trailer traveler's will, only 15 require issuance of a permit and only five collect a fee for such a permit: Miami, Pasadena and East Cleveland charge $1; Harvey Cedars Borough, N.J., $2; Peoria Heights, $50. Nine of these cities have established time limits for trailer-stays. The limit varies from 24 hours, in Janesville, Wis., Long Beach, Calif. and Seattle, to 90 days in any twelve-month period in Pasadena.

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News Bulletin of
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1937
Release No.3: For Wed., Sept. 15

Citizens Held Responsible for Size of City's "Housekeeping Job"

The kind of people that live in a city determine what kind of "housekeeping job" that city has to do, finds a report issued today by the American Public Works Association on "The Street Cleaning Problem."

"The quantity of dirt that finds its way into the street," says the report, "depends in a large part on the character and habits of the people. Just as the homes of some people become dirtier and more untidy than do those of others, the streets of some cities or of some city areas become dirtier and more disorderly than do those of other places."

At least half of the dirt and foreign matter on pavements or sidewalk surfaces and on the parked strips is classified in the survey as "man-created waste." This term includes refuse discarded by pedestrians and from vehicles; sweepings from sidewalks and buildings; droppings from overloaded or defective truck bodies, and debris from construction operations.

The other half is "natural dirt"--that is, dust blown throught the air; sand and clay tracked by vehicles and pedestrians and carried onto streets by rains; particles from the wear of pavement, vehicles and tires, and leaves and branches from trees and shrubbery.

The civic advantages of good city housekeeping are pointed out by the report. It finds that "spotlessly clean streets, neat lawns and gardens, and orderly alleys attract new residents, more visitors and new business." Some European cities, and such diverse American cities as Holland, Mich. and Washington, D.C. are cited as approaching ideal conditions of cleanness and neatness, as well as some of the higher class residential suburbs.

The health aspect of street cleaning is considered in the report. "Our present knowledge and experience," it says, "indicate that the proper collection and disposal of the city's wastes are vital to the maintenance of public health. It has long been recognized that filth encourages disease and that the prompt removal of wastes of a community has a profound effect on the general health of its citizens. .... street cleaning serves to remove that part of the waste that escapes other collection processes." The remainder of the report deals with administrative problems and the proper techniques for the actual job of street cleaning.

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News Bulletin of
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Release No.4: For Thurs., Sept. 16

Police Leaders From Many Countries Meet Oct. 3 in Baltimore

Police officals representing the divisions of this hemisphere--the United States, Latin America and Canada--and representing the three levels of government in this country--Federal, state and local--will speak in Baltimore Oct. 3-7 before the 45th annual conference of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, it was announced today.

Governor Harry W. Nice, of Maryland and Mayor Howard W. Jackson, of Baltimore, will open the conference sessions in the Lord Baltimore Hotel. The presidential address will be given by Commissioner L. V. Jenkins, Portland, Ore. The international aspects of the conference are illustrated by the talks on the first morning by General D. C. Draper, Chief Constable, Ontario, Canada, on "Cooperation between the Police of Canada and the United States," and W. A. Gabrielson, Chief of Honolulu police, who will talk on "Territorial Police Administration."

Homer S. Cummings, Attorney-General of the United States, and J. Edgar Hoover, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation, are the principal speakers representing Federal enforcement agencies.

Thomas E. Dewey, Special Prosecutor in New York City, who has gained recent wide attention for his rackets investigations, will speak on the banquet program, Wed. Oct. 6.

Principal program classifications at the conference will be: crime prevention; new methods of criminal identification and detection; criminal investigation; police personnel; traffic safety; traffic control and accident prevention; police radio, and the police and public disorders. New officers will be elected and installed at the final business meeting.

One of the interesting new movements in police work, the proposed International Police Radio Network, will be discussed at the Thursday session by Captain Donald S. Leonard, of the Michigan State Police, and Chairman of the Committee on Radio. Another question of diverse interest, the Big Brother Movement which has gained much headway among police departments, will be reported on by the committee chairman, Chief William J. Quinn, of San Francisco. A round table on the Big Brother movement will be broadcast over a National Broadcasting Company hookup. Mr. Hoover's address on "Present Day Police Problems" also will be carried over an N.B.C. network.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois Release No. 5 for Fri. Sept. 17

Civil Service Assembly To Meet in Ottawa Oct. 4.

A five-day conference that will bring together civil service and other public personnel administrators, representatives of employee groups and civic organizations interested in improved government personnel will open October 4 in Ottawa, Canada, where the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada has scheduled its 29th annual meeting, Charles H. Bland, the organization's president, announced today.

In addition to sessions of "shop talk" about technical problems that arise in the management of public jobs, and a review of the present status of civil service, the conference program lists discussion of a variety of emerging social problems as they touch the public employer and employee. Among these are: safety and accident prevention programs in the public service; credit unions, group life insurance, and medical care for public employees; and unionization of government workers. One day's session also will be devoted to discussing the rôle of civic and professional groups in the extension and improvement of the merit system in government. Organizations represented in this part of the conference include the National Civil Service Reform League, the National League of Women Voters and the Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Principal addresses will be made by Lord Tweedsmuir, Governor General of the Dominion of Canada; Sir Francis Floud, British High Commissioner to the Dominion of Canada, and Robert L. Johnson, President, National Civil Service Reform League.

Members of the Civil Service Assembly include civil service commissions and other public personnel agencies and their staffs in the two North American countries. Public officials and other persons and organizations interested in improved public personnel administration are associate members. Purposes of the Assembly are to assist commissions in the administration of civil service laws; to foster and develop interest in, and a wider application of, sound personnel administration in the public service based upon the principles of the merit system; to promote the development and use of scientific methods in the field and to furnish a forum for the interchange of sound and practical information related to personnel problems.

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News Bulletin of
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Release No.6: For Sat., Sept. 18

Toledo Peace Board Settles 62 "Strikes" Before They Occur

Toledo employers and labor leaders show growing confidence in the official Industrial Peace Board that celebrated its second birthday recently, reports the International City Managers' Association. With a record of settling 62 of 88 "cases" before they became strikes, the Board has acted on issues involving from one to 3,000 employees. During the first three weeks of August, six strikes involving 192 workers were averted after walkouts had already been voted and deadlines set.

The Toledo Industrial Peace Board is now part of the municipal government and is supported by funds appropriated by the city council, according to Public Management, publication of the International City Managers' Association. The 1937 appropriation of $7,250 provides for the salaries of the director, a secretary-stenographer and all incidental expenses. There are 18 non-paid members of the Board.

Procedure of the Board is the same today as when the panel was created: It mediates, never arbitrates; suggests, never issues orders; operates with a minimum of publicity, never issues statements of opinion; and does not and cannot compel employers or labor organizations to meet with it.

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Homestead Tax Exemption Fails To Gain Support in East

Homestead exemption from taxation continues to demonstrate its appeal to the western and southern states but finds little support in the east, according to the National Association of Assessing Officers. At a special session of the Minnesota legislature, homesteads up to $4000 full value were exempted from the state property tax. Georgia's recent adoption of a $2000 exemption from state, county and school taxes made a solid band of homestead exemption states running from Florida west to Texas and Oklahoma. On the other hand, a proposed amendment to the Rhode Island constitution exempting homesteads up to $3000 has apparently died, after one of two necessary consecutive approvals by the legislature. A special commission has been appointed in Rhode Island to study the advisability of an income tax and a reduction in the real estate tax for small home-owners.

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News Bulletin of
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1937
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P.A.C.H. LIBRARY SEP 17 1937

Building Code Revision Faced by Cities with Low-Cost Housing Ambitions

Trouble lies in store for cities planning municipal low-rent housing projects if their building codes are of an ancient vintage, said Coleman Woodbury, executive director of the National Association of Housing Officials, here today. Unless these cities revise their building codes, which in some cases date back a hundred years, they will be unable to use improved construction materials now available or to build according to modern standards.

The PWA public housing program of the past few years showed up sharply the deficiencies of old building codes, Mr. Woodbury pointed out. The discrepancy between good construction and design practice and the requirements laid down by some local building codes is recognized in the recent state housing authority laws which provide that projects built by the Federal government may be accepted by local housing authorities regardless of non-conformity to local codes.

Under the decentralized program of housing provided by the recently approved Wagner-Steagall Act, the new housing projects will be constructed by local housing authorities and therefore usually subject to local building codes. In cities where building codes are out-of-date or unscientifically worked out, it may be impossible, for example, to fireproof structures by employing tile along with brick; or to use light structural steel and reinforced concrete. Allowed to stand, such building code specifications would definitely limit many savings otherwise possible, and make it doubly difficult to build public housing projects within the cost limitations imposed by Federal legislation.

Revising a city's building code is not the routine matter it would appear to be, Mr. Woodbury said. The job is really one of a planning nature, since the physical layout of the city, the nature and location of its industries and the efficiency of fire protection are among factors that must be considered. The kind of code a city adopts must be fitted to its special needs, he added, "not one copied from another city or based entirely upon a model code."

Although many municipalities announce preparation of new building codes every year, the actual process of adoption is often slow. New York City recently completed the revision of its building code after nine years' effort on the part of a special committee. Revision in Chicago has been under way for years without final acceptance having been achieved. Other cities which have recently brought their codes up to date include: New Haven, Conn., Wilmington, Del., Miami, Fla., Worcester, Mass., Montpelier, Vt., Charleston, W. Va., Spokane, Wash., El Paso, Tex., Montclair, N.J., Detroit, Mich., Moline, Ill., and Santa Ana, Calif.

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News Bulletin of
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1937
Release No.2: For Tues., Sept. 21

Cities to Survey Current Problems at National Conference

Financing municipal services and securing the proper personnel to administer them--two of the perennial problems facing local governments--will receive the concentrated attention of the American Municipal Association at its fourteenth annual convention in Chicago October 13-15, Andrew Joyner, Jr., president, announced today.

The conference, which has become a national forum for discussion of governmental problems affecting municipal life, will draw representatives from the 7,000 cities which are members of the forty state leagues of municipalities nationally federated in the American Municipal Association.

Sessions on public finance will discuss Federal grants-in-aid and loans for municipal projects; state collected, locally shared taxes and state supervision of local finance; and the peculiarly municipal problem of property tax exemptions. Speakers on these subjects will be Clarence A. Dykstra, President, University of Wisconsin, and Chairman of the Urbanism Committee of the National Resources Committee; Simeon E. Leland, Finance Consultant, National Resources Committee, and Illinois State Tax Commissioner; and Carl H. Chatters, Executive Director, Municipal Finance Officers' Association.

Among the problems of local government personnel the conference will discuss are the possibilities of pre-entry and in-service training of governmental employees under the George-Deen Act recently approved by Congress; the experiments cities are now carrying on in contracting for technical personnel services; and retirement and pension plans, including the proposal that the Social Security Act be amended to include municipal workers. John W. Studebaker, U.S. Commissioner of Education; Frank Bane, Director, Social Security Board; and Leonard D. White, former member U.S. Civil Service Commission, will be speakers.

The conference will also devote time to two other problems of current importance to cities: maintenance of airports in the face of increasing air-passenger commerce; and regulation of the house-trailer. Fred D. Fagg, Jr., Director, U.S. Bureau of Air Commerce, and Arnold Frye, Chairman, Municipal Law Section, American Bar Association, will be speakers. Edward J. Kelly, Mayor of Chicago, is to welcome the city delegates

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News Bulletin of
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Release No.3: For Wed., Sept. 22

Arkansas Broadcasts Civil Service Job Opportunities

Arkansans who set their radio dials for a favorite dance orchestra these days frequently find themselves tuned in on job opportunities. For the past month, the Arkansas State Civil Service Commission has been broadcasting announcements of job vacancies over news radio and other stations in brief statements between programs, reports the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada.

In contrast to wordage of a highly technical nature such as is found in the usual placard announcement of civil service openings, the Arkansas radio advertisements run like this:

"The history of the state of Arkansas is filled with the names of men who have contributed to development of the great Southwest. To save the records of these pioneer days, the position of Historical Librarian has been established. Applications for the work are now being received. If you have had specialized history and library training in school and are interested in this work, apply immediately to the State Personnel Division, State Capitol, Little Rock, Arkansas, for all necessary information."

Recruiting methods of public personnel agencies in the United States have been in the "dry-as-dust tradition" for many years, according to William E. Mosher, authority on public personnel administration. The Federal government and the State of New York are two other of the few jurisdictions that have used radio to get in touch with prospective candidates for civil service positions. More common are announcements in the newspapers of specific openings, as required by the local civil service law; placards or posters in public buildings; and circularization of individuals, organizations and institutions that are in touch with suitable applicants. Yet, according to Mr. Mosher, radio announcement of available jobs "when coupled with other methods, results in a much more complete coverage than can otherwise be obtained." He recommends that public employment managers take a cue from their colleagues in the private field and set aside funds for publicizing civil service opportunities by various means, including paid advertising. At the same time, he says, the form of civil service announcements must be revolutionized, so that all of the pertinent information in which a prospective candidate might be interested is included in the initial publication.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
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1 9 3 7
Release No.4: For Thurs., Sept. 23

Assessors to "Talk Shop" in New York City October 20-22

Improvement of the assessor's art, by use of mechanical aids and tested practices, will have a prominent place on the program of the fourth annual conference of the National Association of Assessing Officers, to be held in New York City October 20-22, the Association's Chicago headquarters announced today.

Members of the Association, who include state tax commissioners and county and city officers engaged in assessing property for taxation, will be welcomed by Mayor Fiorello La Guardia. John A. Zangerle, Cuyahoga county auditor, Cleveland, O., is president of the organization.

Subjects for first-day discussion include: "Making Tax Maps by Aerial Photography;""The Use of Capitalized Income As the Primary Basis of Real Property Assessments;" and "Has the Graded Tax Plan Proved Its Merit?" Dominic A. Trotta, Commissioner of Taxes and Assessments, New York City, and Vice-President of the National Association of Assessing Officers, will preside.

Round-tables on administrative and technical problems on the second day will bring together the state tax commissioners, with Irwin Arnovitz, Utah Tax Commissioner, presiding; and the city and county assessors, with Kenneth J. McCarren, member, Detroit Board of Assessors, and William F. Connelly, city tax assessor of Bridgeport, Conn., presiding.

As an additional part of the second day's program, eight city and county assessors have been selected to give short summaries of specific improvements made during the past two years in the assessment practice in their respective communities. Cuthbert E. Reeves, former chief appraiser of the Home Owners' Loan Corporation, will speak on the possibilities of standardizing the measurement of obsolescence in buildings at an afternoon session.

Important on the final day's program of the conference will be a discussion of the report of the NAAO Committee on Principles of Assessment Practice. Charles D. Rosa, member of the Wisconsin Tax Commission and chairman of this Committee, will preside. Speakers of the day will include Joseph Lilly, New York Tax Commissioner, on "The Modernization Program of the New York Department of Taxes and Assessments;" James W. Martin, Kentucky Commissioner of Revenue, on "The Ideal Organization Pattern for the Assessment of Property;" Ronald B. Welch, research consultant of NAAO, on "Recent Legislation and Court Decisions Affecting Assessment Practice;" and John C. Donehoo, assessment consultant, WPA, on "Improving Assessment Procedure through WPA Assistance."

Lawson Purdy, former president of the New York City Department of Taxes and Assessments, will address the banquet closing the conference.

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1 9 3 7
Release No.5: For Fri., Sept. 24

Police Radio Takes on New Facets

With over 550 city and county police departments in the country supplied with radios of a one or two-way variety, police chiefs are on the alert for new ways to expand the role of air-communication in law enforcement work, reports to the International Association of Chiefs of Police indicate. Recent among developments are these:

Five-state cooperation among Michigan, Illinois, Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana police, to develop uniformity of radio communication and interstate emergency blockades.--Police superintendents and chief radio communication officers, holding their first meeting for this purpose in Indianapolis this month, planned to remain in close contact with one another by holding conferences at ninety-day intervals.

Teletype for patrol cars, now under experiment by Major Lynn G. Adams, deputy commissioner of the Pennsylvania Motor Police.--The "facsimile" system sends words by radio that are received through a set which converts the impulses into light, thence to letters. Thus a driver can leave his patrol car and still receive orders. With this system it is said to be virtually impossible to "tap" and receive police messages from any point other than a police car.

Outlawing radio interference by ordinance, made effective last month in Detroit. --Under the ordinance generators and other mechanical apparatus causing electro-magnetic waves or disturbances of high frequency oscillations that interfere with radio reception are subject to check by the radio division of the Detroit police department. If found disturbing, the cause is cured. Present records indicate that over 90 per cent of the complaints are cleared up just by locating the source of the interference and informing the owner, who willingly has it fixed without further discussion.

These and other new developments in the field of police radio will be discussed at the annual conference of the International Association of Chiefs of Police in Baltimore October 4-7, where police communication offiers will hold special sessions.

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Release No.6: For Sat., Sept. 25

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Western States Make "Good Neighbor" Agreements for Motor Vehicles

Rapid increase in "good neighbor" agreements between states with respect to motor vehicles is reported by the Council of State Governments. So advanced has the reciprocity movement become in the West, for example, that the former trend toward port-of-entry laws has stopped. During the past year these new pacts have been signed:

Agreements between Oregon and Idaho, and between Oregon and California, providing that a resident of one state employed in the other need not register his car in both states. Washington and Oregon previously had signed such a pact. "This action," according to "State Government," magazine of the Council of State Governments, "will also affect trucks engaged in commerce among the four states and will help to break down the barriers in interstate traffic." Idaho, Oregon and Washington have further joined in permitting interstate recognition of dealers' license tags when the cars are not being used for demonstration or solicitation purposes. Reciprocity laws on interstate truck movements have this year been enacted also in Arizona, California, Idaho, Nevada, Utah and Washington.

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Municipal Archaeologist Instructs Phoenix Visitors and Citizens

Unique among municipal activities is the work carried on by the city archaeologist in Phoenix, Arizona. In addition to duties as curator of the museum, reports "Public Management," magazine of the International City Managers' Association, he gives instruction in archaeology to students who are referred to him by universities and by the National Park Service. He is also reconstructing Pueblo Grande, a prehistoric Indian ruin near the city which was acquired by the municipality eight years ago and is now administered by the park department.

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News Bulletin of
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Release No.1: For Mon., Sept. 27

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Cities Facing Land Policy Need as "Boom" Predictions Persist

Cities are awakening to the fact strongly emphasized in the urbanism report of the National Resources Committee, that they are faced with the urgent need for a rational land policy, the American Society of Planning Officials said today.

Continued forecasts of building booms and the bitter memories of depression losses suffered as a result of earlier uncontrolled subdivision and speculative practices bring this problem into sharp focus.

It is estimated that about 30 per cent of all cities and suburbs of the United States consist of vacant lots, which probably will remain vacant for years. There are enough such subdivided lots to house more than double the nation's 69,000,000 citizens who live in cities. Planners point out that this means that thousand of miles of streets, and water, sewer and gas mains have been installed in parts of cities that may not be inhabited for years, and that are incurring costly maintenance charges.

The American Society of Planning Officials points to the passage in the N.R.C. report which summarizes the combined problem faced in urban subdivision and land use and the need for an overall land policy: "We are now faced with the problem of arriving at a rational urban land policy which, while affording private owners and developers adequate opportunity for wise and profitable land uses, will curb the forms of speculation that prove calamitous to the investing and tax-paying public."

Laws permitting subdivision control exist in virtually all the states having city planning enabling acts, according to Walter H. Blucher, Executive Director, American Society of Planning Officials, but he adds that it is safe to say that very few cities either effectively regulated their real estate subdivision activities in the last boom period, or are taking steps to do so with the recent signs of building. He recommends that the city plan to regulate such areas, old and new, with provisions for adequate city facilities and transportation, parks and recreation areas, and that physical changes fit in with the general plan of the city, both economically and physically.

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News Bulletin of
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1937
Release No.2: For Tues., Sept. 28

Police Executives To See "Breath Test" for Drunken Drivers

The "breath test," newest scientific device for attempting to determine how intoxicated a drunken driver really is, receives increased attention among police as the movement for traffic safety spreads, the International Association of Chiefs of Police said today.

The breath test already has been adopted as a standard procedure by the State Police of Indiana and the Berkeley, Calif. police department has just installed it, with twelve men trained to use it. Meantime, scientific experiments continue, and further validations of the breath test as a method of determining the relative intoxication of drinking drivers are under way.

In the breath test, a tube is held before the subject without touching him. Samples of his breath are pumped through chemicals, which are selected to show the content of alcohol in the breath. Advocates of the plan say that the test gives a good rating of the actual extent of drunkenness, regardless of the "tolerance" of the subject to alcohol.

Police officials hope that the test will prove to simplify one of the most confused subjects in relation to automobile safety--determination of just how intoxicated a man must be to be an unsafe driver, and to gather admissible evidence to convict him in court. A demonstration of the test will be conducted before assembled police executives at a special program on automobile safety on October 6 in connection with the annual convention of the International Association of Chiefs of Police in Baltimore.

Dr. R. N. Harger, of the Indiana School of Medicine, Indianapolis, is the scientist who has developed the breath test over the past several years.

Other subjects on the traffic safety program of the convention will be the "Importance of Police in Traffice Safety," by Paul Hoffman, President, Automotive Safety Foundation; "Progress of the I.A.C.P. Program," Lieutenant Franklin M. Kreml, Director, Traffic Safety Division, and "Lifesavers of the Highway," a film prepared by the traffic division of the I.A.C.P. Another session will be devoted to traffic control and accident prevention, at which Dr. Harger will demonstrate the breath test.

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News Bulletin of
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850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.3: For Wed., Sept. 29

5 States, Many Cities Face Complex Task in Installing Civil Service

With their first step toward merit-system government accomplished by passage of civil service laws in 1937, five states and more than a score of municipalities face the task of installing new public personnel agencies before the year is out, according to the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada.

In Arkansas, Connecticut, Maine, Michigan and Tennessee new state-wide merit system laws approved by 1937 legislatures are either already effective or about to become so, bringing the number of states under civil service provisions to fourteen. Up to July 1, civil service had been adopted for more than thirty municipal governments, either whole or in part, while three states--North Dakota, South Dakota and Kansas--passed enabling acts permitting cities to adopt the merit system by ordinance or by vote of the electorate.

No. 1 duty of the governments that are novices in civil service administration is to select a trained and experienced personnel director, points out the Civil Service Assembly. Once in charge, the personnel chief, in turn, has a preliminary task in learning all that he can about the positions under his jurisdiction, state or city-wide. This information is usually gathered through a job-survey, such as has already been completed in Arkansas and Tennessee; from it a classification plan is made up, sorting positions into classes according to their difficulty and responsibilities, so that equal pay for equal work may be established. A second task faced by the new personnel officer is to weed out present employes who are incompetent and to retain competent workers; also important to the success of the new public personnel installation, those experienced in the job emphasize, is the education of department heads, employes and public alike with respect to the value of the merit system.

How recently installed personnel agencies have solved these and other problems will provide a topic for panel discussion at the four-day conference of the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada, beginning in Ottawa, Canada, next Monday (Oct. 4). Dr. John M. Pfiffner, professor of public administration, University of Southern California and Commissioner of the Personnel Commission of the Los Angeles City Schools, will act as chairman of the panel, which will include many of the new public personnel administrators.

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1 9 3 7
Release No.4: For Thurs., Sept. 30

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Assessors to Study Pittsburgh Plan for Graded Taxes

Should the owner of unimproved land pay a higher rate of tax on his holdings than the owner of improved real estate? The city of Pittsburgh, holding to its "graded tax" plan after 25 years' trial, answers the question in the affirmative, but taxation authorities still are debating the matter, according to Albert W. Noonan, technical director of the National Association of Assessing Officers.

The "graded tax" plan, which Pittsburgh pioneered in adopting, is one of the subjects listed for discussion at the National Association of Assessing Officers' fourth annual conference in New York City Oct. 20-22. Presumably aimed at land monopoly and equivalent to a partial tax exemption on improvements, the plan has found favor with the majority of Pittsburgh taxpayers, in the opinion of Percy R. Williams, the city's chief assessor.

Before the adoption of the "graded tax" system, real estate within the city of Pittsburgh was classified as "built up," rural or agricultural. Not only were lands in the latter two classes assessed at relatively lower values, but after the fair assessed values were determined, "rural" real estate--where houses were surrounded by trees and shrubbery--was automatically reduced two-thirds of this fair value, while assessment values on large "agricultural" tracts held out of use were reduced by half for purposes of taxation.

This plan was abolished in 1912, when all Pittsburgh real estate was placed on the same basis, subject to assessment at full market value, whether improved, underimproved or entirely vacant. Two years later, with adoption of the "graded tax" plan, real estate was still assessed at full market value, but the municipal tax rate on buildings was fixed at one-half the tax rate on land. The shift in the source of revenue was a gradual one, a step at each triennial assessment period, until by 1937, according to Assessor Williams, approximately $2,833,000 had been shifted from buildings to land.

Harold A. Buttenheim, editor of the "American City Magazine," will discuss the merits of the "graded tax" plan at the N.A.A.O. conference.

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PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
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1 9 3 7
Release No.5: For Fri., Oct. 1

Public Works Officials to Discuss Paving Problems

The ribbons of road beneath the flying wheels of modern traffic are not the standardized products they would appear. Scheduled for discussion at the four-day Public Works Congress of the American Public Works Association beginning next Monday (Oct. 4) in Atlanta, Ga., is the topic, "Needed Research in Street Paving." It will be a session on those practices in pavement construction in which the engineer is forced to use rule-of-thumb procedures because of the absence of scientifically established facts.

While the design and construction of efficient road surfaces--concrete, brick and bituminous--for carrying the great vehicular traffic of today have made slow but steady advancement, work remains to be done on such problems as developing methods for treating and stabilizing the subgrade to effect maximum bearing power, stabilization of road surfaces themselves, and the use of new road-mixtures, according to Frank W. Herring, executive director of the American Public Works Association.

Other session subjects of the Congress include: public works personnel problems; the planning engineer's job in the smaller city; administering public services in a catastrophe, and refuse collection and disposal problems.

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Fees for Special Services Urged for City Police

Public Administration Service, governmental consultants advising Greenwich, Conn. on police department improvements, suggests that "special-privilege services," where necessary, be put on a fee basis, at cost. The term includes special services to social organizations, banks and industrial establishments. Such tasks as guarding payrolls and daily bank transfers, escorting funerals and providing police details for clubs and social functions, said Public Administration Service, are now considered within the realm of general police protection equally available to all citizens. Since they benefit only the particular persons or agencies receiving the assistance, they should therefore be performed at those individuals' expense.

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1937
Release No.6: For Sat., Oct. 2

City Managers Meet in New Orleans Oct. 18-21

Current and chronic problems of city business will share the limelight at the 24th annual conference of the International City Managers' Association in New Orleans Oct. 18-21. Managers of the 462 cities under council-manager government in the United States and Canada, as well as other municipal officials, have been invited to attend the conference, Chicago headquarters of the Association announced today.

The program reveals the wide range of subjects "on the minds" of council-manager cities. Following the first day session on difficult general administrative problems, the managers on Tuesday morning will be segregated by population groups for round-table sessions. Among topics these round-tables will discuss are: the future of WPA and PWA; auto parking and traffic congestion; industrial and social planning by a city government; city-county joint operation of certain functions; the responsibility of the city in providing low-rent housing, and the role of the city in handling strikes.

General sessions of the conference will take up the following problems: (1) Utility Management, including taxicab regulation; financing the improvement and maintenance of municipal airports; municipal responsibility for rural electrification, and methods of charging for utility services outside the city limits. (2) Municipal Finance, including the future financing of public works; sources of revenue to offset effects of tax limitation and homestead exemption; financing the relief burden returned by the federal and state governments; and the levying of service charges for public services. (3) Personnel Administration, including formulation of a municipal labor policy; training of apprentices for government; setting up a pension system for public employees. The managers will devote one entire session to the topic, "How City Managers Can Best Keep up with the Times," and another meeting to "The Role of Citizen Groups in Support of Good Government." T. V. Smith, professor of philosophy at the University of Chicago, and state senator of Illinois, will be the banquet speaker.

Irving C. Brower, city manager of New Rochclle, N.Y., is president of the International City Managers' Association, which was organized in 1914 for the purpose of aiding in the improvement of local government administration.

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Release No. 1: For Mon., Oct. 4

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Cities Join To Seek Way Out of Critical Relief Plight

Forced to fit sizeable expenditures into their budgets in order to contribute their share to WPA projects and to provide further for direct relief, American cities face a dilemma in how to obtain sufficient revenue for immediate and future financing, the American Municipal Association said today.

Current attempt of Chicago to reduce relief rolls is cited as typical of the situation other large cities are facing. Anticipating complete exhaustion of relief funds by November, Chicago must try to find jobs for its large share of the 35,000 persons dropped from WPA payrolls in the state, or cut down relief aid by putting all recipients through a re-application procedure.

Representatives of 7,000 cities amalgamated in municipal leagues of 40 states will put their minds on this problem when the American Municipal Association holds its annual conference next week in Chicago (October 13-15). This conference, one of the most important ever held by American cities because of new urgent problems such as relief, house trailer regulation, and the need for immediate airport expansion, marks the peak of the movement for inter-city cooperation on common municipal questions.

"Congressional approval of the WPA appropriation for 1938 assures some kind of opportunity to put people to work on municipal projects," points out Clifford W. Ham, executive director of the A.M.A., "but in order to do so, the cities must contribute material and equipment costs. Under WPA plans for the first half of June 1938, moreover, Federal officials anticipate a smaller program than in previous years, which means that some cities may find more of their unemployed returned to direct relief. Operation of unemployment compensation and other social security benefits not in full swing for two more years, local revenue, supplemented with state aid in some cases, must care for the rest. While there is no way of determining the size of

(MORE)

the relief rolls next year, WPA employment for the latter half of 1938 must stand at a maximum of 1,730,000, under the recent Congressional appropriation, as against a recent estimate that the country may have a permanent relief load passing two million."

States and localities have increased their expenditures for relief work and direct relief until they are nearly 400 per cent of what they were four years ago. Cities themselves are putting up from 10 to 12 times as much for all relief purposes as in 1929. Plight of individual cities set forth in dollars and cents terms as of last May read like this: San Francisco welfare cost for 1937-38 anticipated as a 75 per cent increase over 1935-36; Buffalo in present fiscal year must devote part of taxes to pay principal and interest on debts already incurred for welfare and work relief; Duluth now spending 1500 to 2000 per cent more for direct relief and work relief over pre-depression days; Lynn, Mass. adding $125,000 to 1936 relief appropriation for 1937.

Some cities are firm believeers in the solution of relief "at home." Cincinnati is trying the experiment of turning relief over to a group of citizens who make an intensive effort to get jobs for those long unemployed. Chicago is considering the plan. To take care of its relief burden, New Orleans has a two per cent luxury tax which produces a million dollars, an amusement tax producing $100,000, and a gasoline tax used partly to finance relief. New York is still using a muncipal sales tax for the purpose.

State legislatures in several instances this year authorized their cities by emergency legislation to float bond issues to finance relief; but some of the cities, already trussed with debt, would rather see other means of support. Their finance officials say they would prefer that the states develop new sources of revenue to finance the bulk of welfare and relief, with administration only left to cities and towns.

Representatives of all three levels of government are on the program to discuss municipal finance and its relief aspects at the American Municipal Association conference. Carl H. Chatters, executive director, Municipal Finance Officers' Association, will present the city's story; Raymond D. Thomas, Dean, School of Commerce, Oklahoma A. and M. College, and Charles M. Johnson, treasurer, State of North Carolina, the state angle; and V. O. Key, research technician, and Simeon E. Leland finance consultant, of the National Resources Committee, the Federal side of the question.

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1 9 3 7
Release No. 2 for Tues. Oct. 5

Cities Consider Prevention at Source to Stop Fire Losses

Plenty of fire stations and fleets of flashing red engines do not necessarily mark the modern American city as exceptionally well-protected from fire, according to the International City Managers' Association. Well-organized fire-prevention programs, trained personnel, and correct fire station location carry as much weight when a city is trying to reduce its losses by fire destruction.

City administrators, among them Assistant Fire Chief Elmer J. Bandgren, of Muskegon, Mich., who in this National Fire Prevention Week is obtaining a certificate for completing the course in fire administration offered through the Association's Institute for Training in Municipal Administration, have learned that the psychology of the American people accounts in part for the emphasis given the more showy aspects of fire-fighting.

"Fire fighting, because it requires positive and dramatic action," the Institute points out, "has had a greater appeal for people than have preventive measures which involve restrictions, prohibitions, and administrative interference with what are termed 'individual rights.' Strict building code provisions and careful inspection of hazards do not have the dramatic appeal of the wild dash of the fire engine. Thus the public has been accustomed to judge the efficiency of fire departments by visual evidence--the more fire stations and shiny red engines there are the better it is assumed is the fire protection, just as it is assumed that the more patrolmen, the less the crime."

To the well-trained fire chief, statistics on the city's fire losses of the past, current fire records and analyses of peculiar local fire hazards are as important as tearing to the scene of a new conflagration in his sirened private car. Because the water department, the police department, public service corporations, such as gas and electric companies, and the telegraph and telephone are aids to fire-fighting, he needs also a thorough knowledge of the workings of many municipal agencies besides his own, so that he can coordinate them for his department's benefit. Important in fire prevention activity are such legal aspects as the prosecution of arson cases, provision and enforcement of an adequate building code and of zoning ordinances, and coordination of civic effort for education.

The course in fire administration is one of five prepared by the Institute for Training in Municipal Administration conducted by correspondence through the International City Managers' Association. Other courses deal with the American city and its government; municipal personnel administration; municipal finance; and public works administration in cities. They are intended mainly for administrative officials who desire to broaden their training on the job.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois Release No. 3: For Wed., Oct. 6

Many Cities Still Lack Machinery To Launch Their Housing Programs

American cities that took passage of the $526,000,000 Federal housing bill as the "green light" signal for their low-rent dwelling developments are in many cases sighting trouble ahead because of inadequate enabling legislation, according to the National Association of Housing Officials.

Aside from the cities in the eighteen states completely lacking the necessary state housing authority legislation, a number of the 49 municipalities with established authorities in the other thirty states are without the tax-exemption provisions which will enable them to participate in the new national housing program.

Absence in the housing law of specific power to grant tax-exemption is not an absolute bar to participation, however, says Coleman Woodbury, executive director of the N.A.H.O. The fact that tax-exemption privilege is not mentioned in the state housing act does not necessarily preclude it. The cities may find this power given them in the state constitution. Where exemption is impossible because there is no legal provision anywhere for it, the city may be able to make direct cash contributions.

There are two irrecoverable expenditures cities must make for municipal housing developments--their share in the subsidy and the administrative budget for the housing authority. "Contrary to popular misconception," says Mr. Woodbury, "the 10 per cent of the project cost which the Federal government will not loan on subsidized projects does not constitute an additional gift from the city but may be raised by borrowing from some other source."

A report issued today by the National Association of Housing Officials traces the development of low-rent housing legislation in the states from 1933, when the NIRA authorized the first loans and grants for slum clearance. At that time only one or two cities in the country believed they had sufficient power under existing laws and charter provisions to carry out housing projects. Over the five-year period since, thirty states, Hawaii and Puerto Rico, have passed housing authority laws and supplementary legislation. Three of the state laws, however, are applicable only to one city in the state: in Michigan, to Detroit; in Texas, to San Antonio, and in Wisconsin, to Milwaukee.

All of the thirty states except Rhode Island have granted the right of eminent domain to housing authorities and Rhode Island has authorized cities to condemn for authorities. Nineteen state housing enabling acts specifically provide for the tax-exemption privilege.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1 9 3 7
Release No. 4: For Thurs. Oct. 7

Real prop. [illegible]

Cities Seek To Turn Much Tax-delinquent Land Back To Use

High tax delinquency on real estate the past few years, with resultant foreclosures, has overloaded many cities with idle, non-productive land, according to reports to the International City Managers' Association. Some cities have turned their surplus land into parking lots or recreation areas; others have gone more or less permanently into the real estate business, to turn tax-foreclosed properties to their financial credit.

Milwaukee, one of the cities in the latter class, recently put into effect a comprehensive plan for disposal of surplus real estate, which is described in the current issue of Public Management, magazine of the International City Managers' Association. Under the plan the city expects to return hundreds of idle and non-productive parcels to the active tax rolls.

A year ago a complete inventory of all city-owned property was made by a staff of trained workers. After conferences with various city officials, including the city planning and city real estate departments, it was decided to lease several pieces of downtown property as parking lots and other parcels were earmarked for future use as parks, playgrounds, sites of public buildings and street widenings. No public use was found, however, for over 700 parcels of city-owned property.

A list of these properties, together with their selling prices, was prepared by the board of public land commissioners, adopted by the council, and released to the Milwaukee Real Estate Board for distribution among its membership and to licensed real estate brokers. For sale of property, any licensed broker is entitled to a commission of 5 per cent, to be paid by the city treasurer on order of the public land commission. The city, however, reserves the right to make sales directly to buyers it contacts.

Parcels of property can be sold only at the sale prices contained in the published lists, which are corrected daily as to new acquisitions and sales. An official atlas showing each piece of property is available at all times for public inspection in the public land commission offices. Detailed regulations have been set up regarding payments, execution of contracts, etc. For example, no contract or sale can be made with a down payment of less than $200 or for a period to exceed five years. Sales over $5,000 must be approved by the council before final.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1937
Release No. 5: For Fri., Oct. 8

Women in Government Movement Growing, With 149 In State And Federal Posts

With 139 seats in state legislative halls occupied this year by women, 44 per cent of them by re-election, indications promise development of a group of trained feminine lawmakers, according to information from the Council of State Governments. Not since 1929, when 149 women served as legislators in the states, has the trend in this direction been so strong.

Most of the 1937 legislators who were re-elected are serving their third, fourth or fifth terms; and four of them--Hon. Eleanor Miller of California, Hon. Mabeth H. Paige and Hon. Hannah Kempfer of Minnesota, and Sen. Rhoda Fox Graves of New York--have responded to roll calls for more than ten years. Hon. Katie E. Taylor of Vermont and Hon. Margaret H. Barden of New Hampshire will begin their seventh terms next month.

The current issue of State Government, magazine of The Council of State Governments, issued today, lists 149 women occupying important legislative or administrative positions in state and Federal governments.

Seven women are members of the U.S. Congress, bringing to 25 the number who have served there since 1916, when Miss Jeanette Rankin, of Montana, was elected as the pioneer. The two current U.S. Senators are Mrs. Hattie W. Caraway, of Arkansas, first woman to be elected to the Senate; and Mrs. Dixie Graves, of Alabama. In the House, five women represent five states: Hon. Virginia E. Jenckes, Indiana; Hon. Edith Nourse Rogers, Massachusetts; Hon. Mary T. Norton, New Jersey; Hon. Caroline O'Day, New York; and Hon. Nan Wood Honeyman, Oregon.

Among the states, Connecticut and Vermont, with legislatures of several hundred members, are each represented by 19 women. Maine, Maryland, New Jersey, Ohio and Rhode Island provided legislative positions to from four to eight women this year. The states of the Great Plains and the South have been least generous in electing women to legislative positions; while in the West, New Mexico, Oregon, Washington and Utah surpass Middle-Western states in numbers of woman legislators. Ten states have a lone woman in the state capitol and fourteen states have none at all.

Two women are "guardians of the great seals" of their states: Hon. Goldie Wells began her first term as Secretary of State of South Dakota this year, and Hon. Elizabeth F. Gonzales has served as Secretary of State of New Mexico for five years.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No. 6: For Sat., Oct. 9

Highway Sidewalks Gain Favor in East

Footpaths

Highway sidewalks for pedestrians along heavily travelled roads are being increasingly adopted. Two eastern states--Massachusetts and New York--recently provided for these safety measures, according to the American Public Works Association. Massachusetts appropriated nearly $8,000,000 last year for the construction of highway footways. New York this year provided for such construction by an amendment to the highway law. The new measure makes it possible to finance with state highway funds the building of sidewalks and installation of lights along state highways outside cities and villages. The superintendent of public works is empowered to let contracts for such improvements where he considers them necessary. State engineers estimate that sidewalk construction will cost on an average of $3,000 per mile.

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Pacific Northwest Fears Results of Migration

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No welcome sight to Pacific Northwesterners these days is the pioneer wagon, however modern, if it is carrying new settlers. Watching with concern the increased migration to this part of the country, the Pacific Northwest Regional Planning Commission has prepared a report depicting the incapacity of the land under present conditions to support more people. Among the facts, according to the current American Society of Planning Officials' News Letter, are these:

> A survey of the location of over 20,000 recent settlers indicates that approximately 48 per cent of them have located on unimproved land, 24 per cent on previously abandoned farms and only 28 per cent on going farms. The supply of developed, above-margin farm land purchasable at fair prices on long-term payments at low interest and low down-payment is not adequate to meet the demand. What is needed before the Northwest can provide a living for more people, according to the report, is a comprehensive program of land classification and land use studies; a broad, correlated program of public works and improvements for water conservation and land reclamation and development that will include provisions of employment during transition periods; and intensive industrial, agricultural, and marketing surveys.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

RELEASE SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10

A. C. H.
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OCT 8 1937

Cities To Study Their Nation-Wide Problems At Chicago Conference This Week

Delegates will begin entering Chicago today as the vanguard of the hundreds who will gather tomorrow and Tuesday for one of the most important meetings American cities have ever held--the 14th annual conference of the American Municipal Association, in the Hotel Blackstone, Wednesday through Friday (Oct. 13-15). Delegates will represent, through state leagues of municipalities, a total of 7,000 cities in forty states.

Mayor Edward J. Kelly, of Chicago, is to open the conference with an address on "Some Pressing Municipal Problems." Andrew Joyner, Jr., city manager of Greensboro, N.C., who heads the American Municipal Association, will make his presidential address also at the opening session.

Officials regard this conference as of particular weight because American cities face some of the gravest problems in the course of municipal history. The coming Chicago session marks the peak of the new rapidly growing movement for inter-city cooperation--a movement implemented in the individual states by their state leagues of municipalities, and in the national scene by the American Municipal Association, which is the federation of these state leagues.

Among outstanding problems for which these officials will here seek solutions--problems that Chicago, as well as every other American city, is facing--will be the cities' relief crisis and other questions of municipal finance, including its state and federal aspects; public employee pensions and inclusion under social security laws; airports, from their financial and modernization viewpoints (a question of major importance now in Chicago); developments in municipal law; and house-trailers and their regulation.

Foremost speakers at the conference include Frank Bane, executive director, Social Security Board; Dr. John W. Studebaker, Commissioner, U.S. Office of Education;

(MORE)

Clarence A. Dykstra, President of the University of Wisconsin, and Chairman of the Urbanism Committee of the National Resources Committee; and Dr. Fred D. Fagg, Jr., Director, Bureau of Air Commerce of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Sessions on municipal finance the first day of the conference will discuss the subject from every angle: V.O. Key, Jr., National Resources Committee Consultant, will speak on "Federal Relations to State and City Finance;" Dr. Raymond D. Thomas, Dean of Oklahoma A & M College, on "Municipal Finance from the State Standpoint;" and Carl H. Chatters, Executive Director, Municipal Finance Officers' Association, on "The Cities' Own Financial Story." Discussion will be led by Charles N. Johnson, State Treasurer of North Carolina, and Harold D. Smith, State Budget Director of Michigan and head of the Michigan Municipal League.

Breakfast round tables on Thursday morning will feature the house trailer problem and developments in municipal law. They will have as respective consultants Paul P. Oppermann, Assistant Director, American Society of Planning Officials, and Arnold Frye, Chairman of the Municipal Law Section of the American Bar Association. Mayor E.B. Erwin, of Salt Lake City, president of the State Municipal League of Utah, will be chairman of the trailer session.

At the session on problems of local government personnel Wednesday afternoon conferees will hear Dr. Studebaker speak on the education of public employees with Federal aid through the George-Deen Act; A.E. Garey, field representative of the Civil Service Assembly and Director of Personnel for the state of Wisconsin, will talk on developments in local personnel administration, and George B. Buck, consulting actuary, New York City, will discuss pension and retirement plans for local employees. Mr. Bane's talk, on "Problems in Social Security Administration," will be given at this session, and will be broadcast over the NBC network.

Following Dr. Fagg's talk on "Aviation Problems" on Friday, a general discussion of municipal airports will be led by Alfred MacDonald, manager of the Wichita Municipal Airport; C.V. Burnett, manager of the Detroit Municipal Airport; and Samuel S. Kenworthy, executive secretary of the New Jersey State League of Municipalities, who is a member of the Airport Operations Advisory Committee of U.S. Bureau of Air Commerce.

Mr. Dykstra's address, which will be on "Our Cities--Their Role in the National Economy," will be made at the Association's annual banquet on Thursday evening.

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At the session on [illegible] of local government [illegible] will deal [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] Director [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] New York City [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] years. Mr. [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] at this session, and will be [illegible] [illegible] [illegible].

Chairman Dr. [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] C. V. [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] executive [illegible] [illegible] is a member of [illegible] [illegible] [illegible].

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE 1937
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois Release No.2: For Tues., Oct. 12

Uniformity Sought In Information Exchange Among Welfare Departments

Varying practice in their methods of handling investigation on applicants for public assistance who were born out of the state has turned state welfare departments to consideration of interstate agreements for such information exchange. The problem is another one of interstate cooperation in the care of a migrant population, of which many members first see the light of day in one state and have moved halfway across the continent by the time they come to make application for one type or another of social security assistance.

To develop a procedure which may improve interstate cooperation in correspondence pertaining to the migrant, the American Public Welfare Association's Committee on Interstate Problems has called a preliminary meeting in Cincinnati this week (Oct. 14-15), from which recommendations will be taken to the annual Committee conference in Washington in December. Representatives of state public welfare departments have been invited to attend the Cincinnati meeting from Alabama, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Tennessee and West Virginia.

As an example of the volume of correspondence now beginning to flood state departments regarding social security applicants as well as other welfare matters, Alabama's recent study revealed that approximately 3000 out-of-state inquiries are received a year. Each month the state department alone receives about 100 inquiries to be relayed to the various county departments. Two states--California and Mississippi--have adopted the practice of asking out-of-state welfare agencies to write directly to relatives of old age security applicants referred to for information. As a result, there is no state record of such inquiries and most replies are found inadequate.

One solution suggested for a more effective procedure is that all correspondence be centralized in the state welfare departments. This centralization would make possible a constant count and analysis of inquiries and investigations, making available valuable information on the migrant population and improving the quality of correspondence by virtue of state supervision.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1 9 3 7
Release No.3: For Wed., Oct. 13

Planners See Lesson For Town Building In English "Greenbelt"

Opening of Greenbelt, Md. to its "first settlers" October 1 launched the country on its experiment with building towns from "scratch" according to a plan embodying modern principles in design and construction features. Brand new communities outside Milwaukee and Cincinnati are now also in the making.

As Greenbelt starts the wheels of its first government moving, with modern, low-rent dwellings provided for its 885 families, comparison is apt with the town of Wythenshawe, England, points out Walter H. Blucher, executive director of the American Society of Planning Officials.

Wythenshawe, England's newest planned low-cost housing community, takes its place alongside the widely heralded garden cities of Letchworth and Welwyn. The City Council of Manchester, large industrial city which planned, and now owns and operated Wythenshawe, applied to Parliament for permission to include 5,500 acres in the planned program for the satellite-garden-town. Sixty-eight per cent of the desired area is now controlled by Manchester through consent of Parliament, and the badly overcrowded, big, industrial city which needs new and better adapted housing accomodations for its working people, is populating rapidly growing Wythenshawe.

The English community is planned to provide homes for an ultimate population of 100,000 to 125,000 persons, with a maximum density of 12 families to the acre. (In the central belt of Manchester, families average 60 to the acre, a density by no means a "peak" for equivalent sections in either English or American large cities.) For the present population of approximately 32,000, there are now about seven thousand corporation houses with approximately a thousand under construction. Houses can be privately constructed, subject to regulations laid down by the city of Manchester, on property which is leased for 999 years.

The English city differs from the American in that the latter does not contemplate, at least at present, the establishment of local industries. In existence for seven years, Wythenshawe has found that, with most of the industries located in Manchester proper, transportation costs are a noticeable burden to low-income workers, and is now successfully encouraging private enterprise to establish industries within its own boundaries.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1937
Release No.4: For Thurs., Oct. 14

Managers To Survey Apprentice Possibilities In City Halls

Local government is fighting a losing battle with private industry for talented managers of the public business unless apprenticeship opportunities are made available to young college graduates, according to a report issued recently by the Committee on Career Service of the International City Managers' Association.

While over 80 colleges and universities offer courses preparing for the public service, scarcely more than a dozen cities a year give graduates a chance at the bottom rung of the career ladder. This year New York City is considering a plan to take on apprentice engineers for a year's intensive practice in city work. Saginaw, Mich. and Austin, Tex. have added graduates in public administration to their city hall staffs for the same purpose.

Solution of this paradox, according to the report, lies in part with the administrators already on the job, who must have "a positive attitude of willingness to assume the periodic responsibility of training an apprentice." Discussion of the ways and means by which city managers can meet this responsibility has an important part in the sessions on personnel administration at the forthcoming conference of the International City Managers' Association (Oct. 18-21) in New Orleans. City Manager Guiton Morgan, of Austin, Tex., who is now training an apprentice, will lead the discussion.

A nation-wide local government service that is actually developing "real careers," according to the Association's committee, would absorb several hundred apprentices a year. These apprentices would be on strict probation and would not receive permanent appointments until they had proved their ability. The proving process in some cases might extend over several years. In cases of prejudice against taking on non-local residents as apprentices, administrators are urged to discharge their responsibility by making certain that no young persons of exceptional promise in their own community lack opportunity to make a career in local government if they desire it.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1937
Release No.5: For Fri., Oct. 15

Assessors To Discuss Industrial Tax Exemption At Annual Conference

Cities and states, anxious to secure employment opportunities for their residents, continue to consider tax-exemption privileges as a means of attracting new industries and encouraging expansion of existing plants, according to Albert W. Noonan, technical director of the National Association of Assessing Officers.

Despite criticism of such "subsidization" on the ground that competitive underbidding for industries may lead to wholesale exemption and dangerous depletion of tax revenue, the past year has witnessed a growth rather than a decline in the practice, says Mr. Noonan. The question will be discussed before a nation-wide assemblage of some 300 local assessors and state tax commissioners at the fourth annual conference of the National Association of Assessing Officers in New York City next week (Oct. 20-23) by Walter Stanley Miller, president of the New York Department of Taxes and Assessments.

New York, like many other of the northern industrial states, has been much concerned over the migration of industry to the South, fed in part, according to popular opinion, by the exemption privileges granted by practically all of the southern industrial states. Whether tax exemption is a controlling factor in such migration is a debatable point, on which the New York Department of Taxes and Assessments has made one specific inquiry. This was a recent study of industrial migration out of Brooklyn,which revealed no instance in which the tax burden was a determining factor.

That states with industrial exemptions are convinced of their efficacy is evidenced by the continued liberalization of the exemption laws, Mr. Noonan points out. Within the past year, Alabama, Louisiana, and Mississippi have all broadened previously existing exemptions, and Wyoming has reestablished a sugar-beet factory exemption repealed in 1933. Up to May 1937, it is reported that Louisiana succeeded in stimulating plant construction amounting to over $10,000,000 as the result of a constitutional amendment approved on November 3, 1936, under which the governor was permitted to grant exemptions to industries.

Altogether, more than a dozen states, most of them in the South, now provide for exemption of some or all new industries. In several other states extra-legal exemption is not infrequently either granted outright or granted in effect by means of nominal assessments.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1937
Release No.6: For Sat., Oct. 16

Municipal Finance Technique Shown "Dated" Within Decade

Ten years can date styles in municipal finance as well as styles in automobiles. A.E. Buck, of the Institute of Public Administration, New York City, at the recent conference of the Municipal Finance Officers' Association in Boston listed these as among the differences a decade has made:

Ten years ago emphasis was largely upon the preparation rather than the execution of the city budget. Budgetary control devices, such as monthly or quarterly allotments, were not generally understood or widely practiced. Capital budgeting was rarely employed, and very few cities could claim anything like comprehensive financial planning. Many expenditures were controlled simply by the exigencies of political circumstances.

Cost accounting, which accounts on a unit basis for expenditures, making possible year-to-year comparisons, was still in its infancy. Financial reporting was largely a matter of form, and supplied little useful information for the purpose of fiscal management. Centralized purchasing, which has since saved thousands of dollars for some cities, was still in the early stages of development.

Tax methods and assessment procedures were yet to be tried by the depression, and found wanting in many phases. Debt administration, except in a few cities, was not a matter than required much planning or caused finance officers to lose any sleep.

In Mr. Buck's opinion, "there has been a vast change in the field of municipal finance...perhaps not enough yet to cope with the new situations that arise" but with indications of "making definite progress."

* * *

St. Paul Improves Municipal Job Control

A forward step toward stabilizing employment conditions in its classified civil service has been taken by St. Paul, Minn., with the city council's adoption of an ordinance that limits the appointing power of department heads, according to J.B. Probst, chief examiner of the St. Paul Civil Service Bureau.

The ordinance, which embodies 13 organization charts showing the distribution of functions, lines of authority, etc., for each department, limits job appointments to the number and titles listed, except in an emergency, when twice the employees may be hired. For fifteen years, writes Examiner Probst in the current issue of "Public Management," magazine of the International City Managers' Association, it has been the practice to permit appointing officers to make whatever appointments they deemed necessary for the proper conduct of their departments, subject to their total salary budget appropriations. Adoption of the new ordinance is seen as closing "a few more of the gaps usually found in public personnel administration."

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1937
Release No.1: For Mon., Oct. 18

P. A. C. H.
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OCT 15 1937

"Off-Year" Finds Few State-Wide, Many Municipal, Elections Scheduled

An off-year for elections, November 2, 1937, will see citizens of only five states going to the polls to vote on questions of state-wide application, survey by the Council of State Governments showed today. Municipal mayoral and councilmanic elections, occurring November 2 in over 200 cities, however, in some cases will decide additional governmental questions.

The five states with 1937 state-wide elections are Kentucky, New Jersey, New York, Virginia and Pennsylvania. New Jersey and Virginia will elect governors; both these states, as well as Kentucky and New York, will elect a portion of their legislators also.

New York and Pennsylvania ballots will contain other issues. In New York voters will select 168 delegates to a constitutional convention scheduled for April, 1938--first in twenty-two years--to draw up a new constitution for the state, into which, it is reported, may be written a reorganization of the state's fiscal policy; revision of the powers of the legislature; creation of a state department of justice; and revision of home-rule provisions. The November 2 vote, also, will express the people's opinion of proposed constitutional amendments providing a four-year term for governor, lieutenant-governor, comptroller and attorney-general, all of whom now serve two-year terms; and two-year terms for Assemblymen, who now serve one year.

Pennsylvanians, pending court action on a restraining injunction, will vote on five constitutional amendments that have already been approved by two successive legislatures. The proposals are: (1) for removal of the "timelock" prohibiting submission of proposed constitutional amendments to the electorate more often than once in five years; (2) to authorize the legislature to write a graduated income tax law, and a homestead exemption law; (3) for permission to put the city and county governments of Philadelphia under a single administration; (4) for a $42,000,000 bond

(MORE)

issue for state institutions; (5) for an amendment to remove doubt of the legality of mothers' assistance and old-age pension appropriations.

New York City, Pittsburgh, Detroit and Cleveland are four of the large cities seeing mayoral elections this year.

Among municipalities whose November 2 ballots will carry special issues in addition to mayoral and councilmanic candidates are:

Columbus, O., where continuance of a 2.4-mill levy to finance relief is up, along with a charter amendment giving classified city employes the right of appeal to the civil service commission in event of dismissal; Reading, Penna., which will vote on a municipal loan for a municipal electric generating plant; Allegheny County, Penna., with a proposal for establishing a county utility authority for any purpose; Yonkers, N.Y., which will consider adoption of the council-manager form of government, the proportional representation system of voting, and a non-partisan ballot.

Election "off-years" find fewer people exercising their voting privilege then in presidential election years. Texas, in a "special" called late this summer, for example, drew out only about 125,000 of the 900,000 eligible voters on six proposed constitutional amendments.

Although many of the cities in which councilmanic elections are scheduled this year anticipate bigger polls than usual, the number of votes cast in municipal elections is usually small, except when they are held the same day as the presidential elections. A special analysis made of 39 cities holding municipal elections on the same day as the presidential election in November, 1936, showed 78 per cent of the registered voters balloting in cities holding November elections, as compared with 67 per cent in cities which held elections at other times.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE 1937
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois Release No. 2: For Tues., Oct. 19

Civil Service Assembly To Issue Certificates of Professional Competence

Governors, mayors and other government officials who are seeking qualified personnel administrators will in the near future have a register of such individuals at hand, according to announcement of the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada made in Chicago today.

As adopted by resolution at its recent annual conference (Ottawa, Can., Oct.4-8), the Civil Service Assembly is to establish professional standards in public personnel administration.

This is one of the first attempts of a group of public officials to impose and administer professional standards in its own field, and it may be compared to the professional standardization of physicians, engineers, architects and other groups in private endeavor.

Granting of the certification of professional competence will be in the hands of a three-member Committee on Professional Standards set up by the Assembly. This Committee will establish the qualification standards for three classes of professional competence: Junior in Public Personnel Administration; Associate in Public Personnel Administration; and Fellow in Public Personnel Administration.

Certificates will be given the public personnel administrators only after their qualifications have been rigidly investigated by the Committee. To aid those who desire to qualify for certificates, the Committee on Professional Standards will outline experience and training requirements, publish a study guide, and prepare a code of ethics. A breach of the code will be considered sufficient cause for suspension or revocation of a certificate.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street

1 9 3 7
Release No.3: For Wed., Oct. 20

Cities Must Try To Solve Own Purse Problems, Finance Authority Says

Local governments that wish to retain autonomy must try to solve their financial problems through their own efforts as much as possible, advises Carl H. Chatters, executive director, Municipal Finance Officers' Association. "The more local governments seek from superior governments," says Mr. Chatters, "the greater will be the domination of the larger units. Asking the Federal government for 'hand-outs' is neither the proper political nor financial way to solve local difficulties."

He outlines this 15-point program for cities anxious to work out their own financial salvation:

1. Get on to the tax rolls on an equitable basis every parcel of real property and every dollar's worth of personal property.

2. Since it is clear that the real estate tax will continue to be the cities' chief revenue source, assess as suggested above, collect taxes promptly and vigorously, and do not remit, cancel or postpone tax penalties.

3. Curtail tax exemptions as far as legally possible.

4. Work for statutory and constitutional power to classify intangible personal property for tax purposes. This will encourage and permit an honest listing of intangibles.

5. Where local taxes are not a burden, but local taxpayers are complaining, try to obtain their understanding and cooperation by giving full information about the city.

6. Develop adequate accounting and budgeting plans so that revenue may be accurately estimated and expenditures controlled.

7. Get complete facts about the community, its actual resources, its ability to pay, and the cost of public services, to compare with cities of like size and character.

8. Make every public utility completly self-supporting.

9. Do not build up fixed charges for debt service of any kind. Before constructing capital improvements such as auditoriums, hospitals and airports, consider the cost of their maintenance as well as the debt incurred, if any.

10. Every time a new state law is proposed making it necessary for cities to spend money, call this to the attention of the legislature and request new revenues to finance the new activity.

11. Demand a portion of the state gasoline tax, without strings to the funds so distributed.

12. Seek from the states a portion of state-collected, locally-shared taxes rather than grants-in-aid. If a state passes a sales tax law, cities should share in the revenue produced.

13. Search out and rigidly enforce every local revenue source now granted in the city charter or the state statutes.

14. Do not lend the public credit for private purposes such as the construction of improvements by special assessment, general revenues, or general bond issues in speculative real estate subdivisions.

15. Have every service performed for a limited group paid for specially and separately by that group.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.4: For Thurs., Oct. 21

Administrative Development Important in New State Assistance Agencies

Concerned during the past two years with the passage of public assistance laws to permit their participation in the Federal Social Security program, states for the next year or two will turn activity toward solution of the many administrative problems arising under the new laws and newly created agencies, Jane M. Hoey, Director of the Bureau of Public Assistance of the Social Security Board, reports to the American Public Welfare Association.

While no two states have exactly the same public assistance programs or have reached exactly the same stage of program development, says Miss Hoey in "Public Welfare News," bulletin of the Association, experience of those states that have received Federal grants for the past year or more indicates certain similar questions confronting all the agencies. Among these are the following:

1. Devising a method of securing integrated operation of the various public assistance, general relief and other welfare programs.

2. Developing a well-equipped field staff for official communication with local units of government, so that adequate standards of welfare work are maintained throughout the state, and at the same time the program is adapted to the peculiar needs of a given locality.

3. Developing joint services to be used by various bureaus, such as consultant service of home economists, advisers on insurance and property problems, medical social workers, etc.

4. Fitting in with the general pattern of the state government and learning to utilize the facilities of "old-line" agencies such as offices of the state auditor, state treasurer, attorney-general and civil service commission.

Solution of these problems, as well as those of policy, procedure, personnel and finance that must be decided, does not label the state welfare administration "complete," Miss Hoey emphasizes. "Continuous analysis and evaluation of the manner in which the program is meeting its responsibilities and the areas which it fails to cover adequately are an essential part of sound and efficient administration. Increasing recognition of this fact on the part of state administrators augurs well for the future of public welfare in this country."

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE 1937
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois Release No. 5: For Fri., Oct. 22

National Association of Housing Officials To Hold Conference In Cleveland

Solution of the low-rent housing problems of American cities under programs made possible by the U.S. Housing Act of 1937 (the Wagner-Steagall Bill) will be discussed from all angles at the annual conference of the National Association of Housing Officials, which will take place in Cleveland, O., November 18-20, as announced today by Chicago headquarters of the Association.

The meeting is expected to be the largest and most representative housing conference every held in this country. Members of local housing authorities will confer on ways and means of discharging the many duties that will be theirs under the new decentralized program. Representatives of state housing boards will discuss the task of supervision and education in their respective fields. Staff members of Federal agencies will define administrative practices and regulations.

Important on the program also will be discussion of housing in the changing urban life of the country, as presented in the recent Urbanism Report of the National Resources Committee. A housing roll call will reveal plans anc activities of the 50 local and 16 state agencies already established to deal with the new governmental function. Round table sessions will bring up such subjects as the "new profession" of housing manager; neighborhood rehabilitation and building repair; and financial problems of authorities and directive agencies. Delegates will make a tour of Cleveland PWA housing projects as a part of the conference.

The National Association of Housing Officials, with a membership of over 600 local and state housing officials throughout the country, is now in its fifth year of existence. Organized as a clearing house of information when low-cost housing was first talked of in the United States, the Association has recently set up three special committees to deal with important administrative aspects in the field. These are: a Committee on Management Agreements, which is working to evolve a satisfactory formula for transferring the management of housing projects from PWA Housing Administration to qualified local authorities; a Committee on Instruction and Research in Housing and one on Housing Management. Plans are under way also for an enlarged consultation service to help local authorities make application for loans and grants from Federal authority under the 1937 Housing Act.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1 9 3 7
Release No.6: For Sat., Oct. 23

Planning Education Advances As Role of Cities Expands in National Scene

With the role of cities increasing in importance on the national scene, as emphasized by the National Resources Committee Urbanism Report, new ways to apprise the public of the necessity for city planning are reported by the American Society of Planning Officials.

Buffalo's Municipal University has just announced a "planning research station." In cooperation with the Buffalo City Planning Association, and with Dr. Walter Curt Behrendt, Professor of City Planning and Housing at the university,as technical director, the planning station will offer practical demonstration of the planning function to university students studying social work and to post-graduates in architecture, engineering and related subjects.

The New England Town Planning Association announces a new course in "School Projects in Practical Civics," for high schools, designed to acquaint young students with the principles of town planning. The course will include work with relief maps, streets and highways, zoning, park systems, industry, parking, airports, etc. Similar study has been carried out for many years in the city of Dallas, Tex., where civics classes use a text, "Our City Dallas," devoted in large part to the subject of local planning.

Opening in New York City this month was the display of the U.S. Junior Chamber of Commerce, first of a nation-wide traveling exhibit to promote the visualization of city planning for the general public. The exhibit features models of metropolitan centers in their present state, and some "cities of the future." Following the New York opening, the exhibit will be shown in Buffalo, Flint, Chicago, Portland, Los Angeles, Philadelphia and other cities. The exhibit will be returned to New York, according to present plans, for display at the World's Fair of 1939.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1937
Release No.1: For Mon., Oct. 25

OCT 22 1937

Municipal Report Cites Advances And Vital Needs In Milk Control

It is essential both for public health and for the benefit of the millions dependent on the dairy industry for a livelihood that all possible precautions be taken to safeguard the quality and safety of the nation's milk supply, the American Municipal Association said today, in announcing its forthcoming report on milk control in America.

"With the recent recovery in farm and other income levels," says the report, "the time is now ripe for the introduction and improvement of milk regulations which had necessarily to be postponed during the depression years."

The report, published by the Public Administration Service of Chicago, soon will be off the press. It covers the principal steps taken by Federal, state and local authorities to regulate the milk supply, and includes also those developments still necessary further to purify milk in every section of the country, and at the same time,aid the industry.

Among achievements listed in the effort to increase consumption of milk and safeguard consumers against milk-borne infection are the following:

1. Only a negligible proportion of the raw milk consumed now comes from non-tuberculin-tested cows, and even the percentage of pasteurized milk which comes from such cows is decreasing rapidly.
2. Pasteurization of milk is much more general than a few years ago. The proportion of the total milk supply that was pasteurized in 500 cities of over 10,000 rose between 1927 and 1931 alone from 81.1 per cent to 87.5 per cent.
3. Delivery methods have improved, with practices of transfer of milk from one open container to another disappearing. Even in retail establishments, sealed glass bottles, single service containers and closed dispensing apparatus have in most districts superceded the dipping method.
4. The uniform standards set up by the U. S. Public Health Service in consultation with milk industry representatives and of state health and Federal agricultural authorities have found wide local acceptance. Uniform standards are almost universal in the South, and are reported spreading to other sections. Seven hundred communities have adopted the recommended ordinance, and several others have incorporated many of its requirements.

Among things remaining to be done the report lists these:

1. With bovine tuberculosis practically eliminated, it is now necessary to eliminate Bang's disease, one of the causes of undulant or Malta fever. This can best be achieved by adoption of laws by Federal and state governments guaranteeing compensation for destroyed reactors, and by prohibiting the transport of non-tested cattle across state lines.
2. More accurate reporting of milk-borne infection outbreaks are needed. There is still room for improvement in the investigation and identification of the causes of such outbreaks, by the more accurate analysis of consumers' and dealers' sources of supply of milk and milk products.
3. Achievements in milk control serve to illustrate the fact that milk regulations should be uniformly applied to all phases of production, processing and distribution if they are to have any real value.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.21 For Tues., Oct. 26

3d Of Cities At Polls Next Week To Use Mechanical Voting

Voters of more than a third of the 200-odd larger cities who go to the polls on November 2 for municipal elections will record their choices of mayor and councilmen by pulling a lever instead of marking an "X" beside a candidate's name, the Governmental Research Association reported today. Altogether, more than 3,500 cities and towns in the country have adopted the voting-machine since its first use forty-five years ago by Lockport, N.Y. Among the large cities using the mechanical system of vote-casting are New York City, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Baltimore, Hartford, Seattle, Indianapolis and Philadelphia.

New York City voters, accustomed to voting-machines with more than a decade's usage will use both the "old-fashioned" paper ballot and the mechanical device this year. Voting under proportional representation for the first time under the new city charter, they will name their mayor on the voting-machine, but choose councilmen by paper ballot. A machine has been perfected for "P.R." voting, with its necessary marking of first and successive choices of candidates, but New York has not yet adopted it.

State enabling legislation is necessary before local governments may install voting-machines. More than 25 states, most recent of which is Florida, have passed laws permitting their use; in many of these states, however, no city has adopted them. Jacksonville and Tampa are the first two cities in Florida to install the machines.

Installation of voting-machines, which must be approved by voters, has been more rapid in some states than in others. Capital cost and the outlays for storage and transportation are important factors in their acceptance, although substantial eventual economies in election expenses are claimed by the machines' proponents, as well as a more accurate count and elimination of voting fraud. The devices, each of which will accommodate at least 600 voters, cost about $1,000 apiece and are given a minimum life of 25 years.

New York state is now approaching 100 per cent adoption of voting-machines, the election law reading that by 1938 all cities and towns must have installed them. Over a hundred cities and towns in each of the states of Pennsylvania, Indiana, Iowa and Connecticut have adopted them. Scattered cities have done so in Arizona, California, Florida, Montana, Michigan, Washington and Wisconsin.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1 9 3 7
Release No.3: For Wed., Oct. 27

Housing - Tax exemption

Tax Problem Faces Cities In Search For Housing Program Funds

Appointment of Nathan Straus, of New York, as administrator of the new U. S. program for long-range slum clearance and low-cost housing, crystallizes the federal part of the program, and puts the next step up to the states and cities, the National Association of Housing Officials pointed out today.

The cities' most perplexing problem is financial--how to raise the contribution needed to participate in the federal subsidy. In this problem, the tax exemption aspect is causing the most headaches in state capitols. This, and the manifold administrative questions confronting the new city housing authorities springing up overnight, will be discussed by housing experts and administrators from all sections of the country at the annual conference of the National Association of Housing Officials in Cleveland, Nov. 18-20.

Since the U. S. Housing Act of 1937 requires communities to contribute one-fifth as much subsidy as is contributed by the federal government for a local housing project, the various local housing authorities must seek means to raise this contribution. Most housing authority laws adopted by the thirty states already having such legislation provide for outright exemption of the real property of housing authorities. When payments are permitted, they are to be determined at the discretion of the local authorities, thus depriving local government of considerable discretion in the matter.

Amendments to the housing authorities act just passed in Wisconsin contain a provision on tax exemption of interest to other populous states such as Missouri, Minnesota, Iowa and Virginia, where housing authority legislation is still lacking. The Wisconsin law provides that exemption may be granted but leaves the final determination of the amount up to the city government concerned with the project. Thus, the question of local contribution, whether in the form of tax exemption or some other subsidy, is put squarely up to the local government, and must be worked out before any project can finally be approved by the federal agency, known as the United States Housing Authority.

Other states also are active in housing legislation. In Michigan and Texas, amendments are to be sought in impending special sessions to housing statutes considered unsatisfactory or incomplete. Wisconsin has just terminated its special session and New Jersey expects to consider amendment of its housing law when the legislature reconvenes. Meanwhile, new local housing authorities are being created in states having the proper legislation. The N.A.H.O. estimates that fifteen new authorities have been created since the passing of the new Housing Act, bringing the total for the country to about sixty.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1937
Release No.4: For Thurs., Oct. 28

16 Cities Hang Up Safety Records With Anti-Accident Police Bureaus

Accident investigation bureaus in city police departments are achieving concrete results in the form of reduced fatalities and increased convictions of crash-causing drivers, according to reports made to the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

Since the installation of the first accident investigation bureau, in Evanston, Ill., fifteen cities have been aided in establishing special investigating squads by the IACP Traffic Safety Division, under direction of Lieut. F.M. Kreml. Their accident records since installing the bureaus as compared with previous periods show:

1. A reduction in death rate of 19 per cent in 1937 as compared to the average for the previous three years, the rate itself dropping from 23.2 per cent to 18.8 per cent. (At the same time cities reporting to the National Safety Council experienced a reduction of only 7.5 per cent.)

2. A reduction in death rate of 13.8 per cent in 1937 as compared to the same eight months of 1936, the rate itself dropping from 21.8 per cent to 18.8 per cent. (Cities reporting to the National Safety Council experienced an increase of 12.3 per cent.)

3. Twelve of the cities experienced an average reduction of 26 per cent in death rate during the first eight months of 1937, as compared with the previous three years.

4. Twelve of the cities experienced an average reduction of 21.8 per cent in death rate during the first eight months of 1937, as compared to that period in 1936.

5. In all the cities a high percentage of traffic law violators who had accidents, including hit-and-run drivers, are apprehended and convicted. Waterbury, Conn., has a perfect record of convictions on 46 hit-and-run cases reported, and eight other cities are well over the 60 per cent mark.

The sixteen cities where accident investigation bureaus are in operation include: Evanston, Ill., Syracuse, N.Y., Louisville, Ky., Bridgeport, Conn., New Haven, Conn., South Bend, Ind., Cincinnati, O., Hartford, Conn., Saginaw, Mich., Waterbury, Conn., Columbus, O., Miami, Fla., Atlanta, Ga., Oakland, Calif., Greenwich, Conn., and Detroit, Mich. where installation was but recently completed. Installations are now under way or anticipated in Knoxville and Chattanooga, Tenn., and Cleveland and Dayton, O.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1 9 3 7
Release No.5: For Fri., Oct. 29

Michigan 2d State To Train Apprentices For Personnel Work

Apprentices in government personnel work for Michigan, latest recruit to the merit system, will go into training this year on the staff of the new State Civil Service Department, according to the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada.

William Brownrigg, State Personnel Director, has announced inauguration of the program, under which a selected group of young men will soon undertake to study employee management in the public service. Their apprenticeships will be served in the Lansing office of the Civil Service Department, where they will work "regular hours," except for a weekly trip to Ann Arbor for a course of special lectures at the University of Michigan. The purpose of the university course is to provide a theoretical background in personnel administration; the work in the Civil Service Department will offer practical experience.

Under plans for a continuing program each year's group of apprentices will be selected through an open competitive examination. Students with B.A. or M.A. degrees who have taken courses in political science, public administration or personnel management will be admitted to the test. At the end of their year's apprenticeship they will be encouraged to enter a promotional examination in order to qualify for junior technical positions on the regular staff.

The Michigan procedure of training candidates for public personnel service, according to the Civil Service Assembly, will follow closely the program developed by Director Brownrigg in his previous capacity as an executive of the California State Personnel Board. The California program, in operation since 1930, consists of a graduate seminar in public personnel at the University of California, and individual pursuit of problem study in collaboration with city and county governments throughout the state.

Through an open competitive examination, the State Personnel Board selects a number of personnel students early in the year as assistants in the headquarters office. Engaged at a nominal salary on a part-time basis, upon completion of the year's course the selected students have sufficient training for junior technical positions on the state personnel board staff or for positions with other personnel agencies. California has found the training school successful, several apprentices having advanced to important posts on the State Personnel Board staff; while other "graduates" have taken positions in such outside agencies as the U.S. Civil Service Commission, the Tennessee Valley Authority, and the California Relief Administration.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE — 1937
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois — Release No.6: For Sat., Oct. 30

30 States Set Up 200 Boards To Study Legislative Programs

Thirty of the 48 states will have over 200 special legislative committees and commissions at work during the interim in law-making common to most states in 1938, according to a survey by the Council of State Governments. Before the busy legislative year 1939 rolls round, these committees will be ready to advise on subjects ranging from port authorities to World's Fairs.

Legislative interim committees have been in use for a number of years. They may be joint committees, composed entirely of members of the two legislative houses; special committees set up by one house or the other, or commissions composed wholly or in part of persons not members of the legislative body.

California, Illinois, New York, Oregon and Pennsylvania often use the devices, and many other states use them occasionally, says Dr. Martha J. Ziegler, of the political science department of Northwestern University, in the forthcoming issue of "State Government", published by the Council of State Governments. Chief reason for appointment of interim committees is that "the diverse, complicated and often technical problems brought before legislatures in the Twentieth Century require special and intensive study before any decision can be made." Chief adverse criticism is the intimation that the committees are created "simply to postpone action on some controversial issue, or to do work that the legislators could do within session if they were sufficiently competent and interested."

A study made by Dr. Ziegler of special committees and interim commissions established in Illinois from 1900 to 1934 revealed that of the 129 joint committees appointed, approximately 13 were almost totally inactive; nearly 25 of the 76 committees made reports and recommendations that were carried into law, and 11 were altogether unsuccessful. "Success," in some cases, however, Dr. Ziegler points out, may have come about by the committee's being "as quiet and inactive as possible." In California a similar study showed that a large number of major recommendations made by interim study agencies were enacted into law within two or three sessions after they had been made.

Legislative councils established during the past four years by eight states--Connecticut, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Nebraska, Virginia, and Wisconsin--carry the advisory committee a step further. Designed primarily to collect information during intervals between sessions and to present a program for action, including drafts of bills, the legislative council is frequently aided by research workers employed on a full-time basis. The council itself, however, in most states is composed of legislators.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1937
Release No.1: For Mon., Nov. 1

OCT 28 1937
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Oppermann

Vote Tomorrow Likely To Swell Council-manager List In U. S.

Tomorrow's elections may see an appreciable increase in local governments coming under the council-manager system during 1937, if voters in four New York communities approve the proposals on their ballots for new charters. Eleven cities already have been added this year to the list of council-manager governments, the International City Managers' Association said today. Addition of the four other communities would bring the total to 447 cities and 9 counties in the United States.

Yonkers, pop. 135,000, and Elmsford, pop. 2,935, are the two New York cities that will vote on adoption of a city-manager charter tomorrow. Yonkers also is considering proportional representation for all council elections after 1938. Erie County, including the city of Buffalo, and Schenectady County, including the city of Schenectady, are voting on county-manager charters, an innovation of recent years.

The seven counties at present under council-manager charters (which provide for a chief official appointed by an elected board in contrast to an elected head) are: Henrico County, Va., pop. 30,000; Arlington County, Va., pop. 2,600; Albemarle County, Va., pop. 2,600; Durham County, N.C., pop. 67,000; Monroe County, N.Y., pop. 423,000; Sacramento County, Calif., pop. 142,000; and San Mateo County, Calif., pop. 77,000. The last four counties contain, respectively, the sizeable cities of Durham, Rochester, Sacramento and Redwood City.

A directory of council-manager cities just compiled by the International City Managers' Association indicates that 18.3 per cent of the 93 larger cities in the country--those over 100,000--are council-manager governed. Small cities, also, are coming under the plan with frequency. Adoptions in 1937 included Alameda, Calif., pop. 35,000; Cedartown and Moultrie, Ga., pop. both about 10,000; Jacksonville Beach and Lake Worth, Fla.; Shillington, Penna.; Middlebury and Hardwick, Vt.; Rehoboth, Del.; Greenbelt, Md., and Orange, Va. all of which have populations of 5,000 or less.

While the four New York cities consider council-manager charters, voters in several other jurisdictions will find governmental revisions on the ballot. New York states' populous Westchester County will vote on a new charter that will provide for an elected county executive, with a four-year term. Pennsylvania will consider city-county consolidation for Philadelphia. Kentuckians, in a state-wide election, will vote upon a proposed constitutional amendment permitting the legislature to modify and consolidate any governmental bodies within its counties, thus making way for city-county consolidations.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1937
Release No.2: For Tues., Nov. 2

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Several Cities Voting Today On Airport Financing Problem

A question in the minds of many of the country's voters, and actually on today's ballots in a few sizeable cities over the nation, will be: How are we going to finance our airports? The same financial question is the core of the problem which is coming to a head among aviation authorities in Federal, state and city governments, the American Municipal Association points out; namely, how can we finance our immediate and future airport needs to preserve the civil airways in a way fair to all parties concerned--the aviation industry, the Federal departments and the municipalities themselves?

Oblivious for the moment of the national aspects of the question, some cities are attacking the problem in their own way. San Francisco, for example, has on its ballot in today's election a proposition for a bond issue of $2,850,000 for improvements of its municipal airport in San Mateo County "necessary to insure leadership to this city's airport facilities in the competition for trans-Pacific and transcontinental airlines." The bonds, by provision for early redemption and short-term, eleven years, conform to the "pay-as-you-go" principle insofar as this can be applied to bond issues.

The proposed bond issue would provide development of a seaplane landing port and facilities at a cost of $1,400,000; landing field extensions at $1,300,000; land purchase, $50,000; and radio and navigational equipment, $100,000. Because of its strategic location, San Francisco's airport perhaps has better revenue expectancies than most airports. The city estimates its revenues have doubled the last year--$35,000 in 1936-37, and an expected $78,650 for the current fiscal year. An increase to $130,000 is foreseen when planned improvements are completed.

Voters of Dayton, O. will pass on a proposed extra .4-mill levy for two years for real estate, in order to raise money to expand and improve its airport. Youngstown, O., although not voting on the airport question, plans to raise funds from interested businessmen and industries through a civic campaign. A total of $132,000 is sought. Peoria, Ill. voters recently approved a bond issue under authority granted by the Illinois General Assembly, requiring an election petition by 1 per cent of the voters. Quincy and Springfield, Ill. also are said to be interested in the idea of issuing revenue bonds, amortizing them out of airport revenues, or leasing. This is designed so that the city itself will undertake no new indebtedness.

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A question in the [illegible]

[illegible] over the nation, will [illegible]

our airports [illegible]

to [illegible] aviation authorities [illegible]

[illegible] Association points out; [illegible]

[illegible] needs to preserve the civil [illegible]

[illegible] views [illegible] the national aspects of the question [illegible]

[illegible] attacking the problem in their own way [illegible]

[illegible] airport [illegible]

[illegible] airports [illegible]

[illegible] "pay-as-you-go" [illegible]

to bond measures [illegible]

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[illegible] of Dayton, O. will base on a proposed [illegible] in order to raise money [illegible]

[illegible] Officials [illegible]

[illegible] revenue bonds [illegible]

News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.3: For Wed., Nov. 3

Milwaukee City Officials Return to "School" To Improve Administrative Efficiency

Many men grown gray in the city service of Milwaukee are returning to "classes" in one of the most unusual projects recently undertaken by a local government. The Milwaukee Government Service League arranged the classes, through its Committee on Training for the Public Service. The "school" takes the form of a lecture series for city department heads and aids. They meet once each week in a downtown hotel at luncheon to hear experts in all phases of municipal administration. If desired, a round-table discussion, with the expert as consultant, follows.

Dr. S. A. Barrett, President of the League, is acting as "teacher," or chairman. Among lecturers on the schedule, which will continue well into December, are:

Dr. John M. Pfiffner, Professor of Public Administration, University of Southern California; Donald C. Stone, director, consulting and research division, Public Administration Service; Carl H. Chatters, Executive Director, Municipal Finance Officers' Association; G. Lyle Belsley, Executive Director, Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada; Clarence E. Ridley, Executive Director, International City Managers' Association, and Lyman Moore, Assistant Director, Institute for Training in Municipal Administration, International City Managers' Association. John M. Gaus, Professor of Political Science, University of Wisconsin, will give the concluding address.

The course was arranged with the indorsement of the city council. Nearly 100 key city and county officials attended the first session. The sponsoring Government Service League is composed of city and county officials and their employees, who seek to make their public service more efficient. This project is viewed as particularly interesting in its relation to the growing American movement for "in-service" training, in which public employees down the line are trained on their jobs in various city departments.

The expressed purpose of the course is to give members of various Milwaukee departments a working knowledge of the overall functioning of their city government, showing the interrelationship of activities; and to give men largely recruited from technical positions more information on approved administrative techniques.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.4: For Thurs., Nov. 4

Ideal Handbook Prepared To Aid 48 States

Prescription for a state manual, sourcebook of political and governmental information now issued by each of the 48 states with a variety of style and material and at widely-varying costs, appears in a report issued today by the National Association of Secretaries of State from its secretariat in the Council of State Governments.

Not intending to strive for uniformity in these state "encyclopedias," the special committee of the N.A.S.S., after a year's study, lays out a general pattern upon which needs of individual states can be based. Manuals of all the states were examined before the "ideal" manual was made up.

The present type of publication, which may be a small volume of 39 pages in Montana and a tome of 1323 pages in New York, has developed from different sources, the report points out. In 26 states it has grown out of the Secretary of State's report to the governor and the legislature; in other states it is the offspring of the Legislative Handbook prepared for the legislators; in still other instances the state historical associations are responsible; and the most recent development is its preparation by state planning commissions.

Examination of the state "blue books," handbooks and manuals showed that most of them carried in one form or another the following nine classes of information: constitutional, organizational, political, electoral, financial, biographical, reportorial, historial, and information about the manual. Electoral statistics were found reported more adequately than other date "equally important." Financial information, on the other hand, was not simply or adequately presented. Biographical material about state legislators, found in thirty of the manuals, was "scattered and scanty." Only a few state manuals were sufficiently indexed; many had no index at all.

Curious citizens, referring to the ideal state manual, should be able to find in it this information, says the N.A.S.S. committee: the state constitution, with amendments to date; state seal, state flag, state flower; brief history of the state; biographical sketches of all elective officials, including salaries; election returns; lists of county and township officers; political party information; roster of national and state governmental officials; list of all newspapers in the state; revised postal directory of state; information on educational, eleemosynary and penal institutions.

Aside from content of the manual, two other factors are labeled important for service: a wide and free distribution of the manuals, and an appearance made attractive by plentiful illustration.

To make such a manual possible, budgets would need increasing in many states. Wisconsin, for example, spent $29,145.76 last year to issue 45,600 copies of its Blue Book, while Arkansas got out a Handbook of 5,000 copies spending only $1,377.22. Other states, publishing small handbooks or registers, spend but a few hundred dollars apiece.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.5: For Fri., Nov. 5

Wider Use of "Movies" Urged In Training Public Employees

Modern efforts to train men for public service by using motion pictures have only scratched the surface of this fascinating field, the Civil Service Assembly said today. Training for police, firemen and prison guards is found to offer particularly good material for movie presentation.

Activities are increasing among the Federal, state, and city governments to use more motion pictures to assist in training for public service occupations, but the Civil Service Assembly considers that the beginnings are small when compared to the possibilities yet to be explored.

The Assembly points to the findings of the report just published by the Committee on Public Administration of the Social Science Research Council as bearing out this view. The Civil Service Assembly believes that "movies" constitute a tool that is used far too little in training public personnel, and that the simple, visual advantages of this method furnish a worthy field of study and development.

A few movies, primarily to educate the public in fire prevention, have been used in training firemen but these pictures do not effectively portray the details of the fireman's job. Also to a very limited extent movies have been used in police training courses. These have included such subjects as: stopping a suspected person, fingerprint identification, identifying stolen automobiles, and the proper use of firearms.

Although virtually nothing has been done to use motion pictures for training prison guards, this field is considered one of the most promising. Prison authorities believe they would find movies particularly helpful in training guards in modern methods of control and discipline, self-defense, the degrees of custodial supervision and the physical and psychological differences among men. The expanding training programs in the police, fire, and prison fields will be offering many new opportunities to use motion pictures. At present a sound movie is being prepared for the training of policemen in the techniques of arrest and search.

Among recommendations made by those exploring the subject are: 1) That a continuing research project be established for determining the most valuable subjects for public employee training, and definitely establishing what value motion pictures would carry in such training; 2) that several experimental sound movies be made for training in the police, fire and prison fields; 3) and that a national distributing plan be worked out so that these movies will benefit as many as possible of the 3,500,000 public employees in the United States.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.6: For Sat., Nov. 6

Cities Turn Discarded Tin Into Cash By "De-tinning" Cans

[illegible]

Tin cans in the rubbish heaps represent "gold in the mountains" to those cities which have learned other means of disposing of the discarded containers besides carting them to the city dump. The American Public Works Association reports that one method used is to "de-tin" the cans, recovering the tin, and baling the de-tinned metal, both of which are sold. Another utilization is to bale the cans and ship them to copper smelters for use in the leaching process of extracting copper from the ore; the baled cans are sold as scrap metal. Los Angeles sells its tin cans to a salvage company, and Atlanta also uses a salvage method. Two cities--Tucson and Baltimore--put the cans to use in the manufacture of the deodorant, ferrous chloride. Tucson does the manufacturing itself; Baltimore sells the cans to a private concern for manufacture.

The advisability of adopting any of these salvage plans, the American Public Works Association points out, depends largely on the current market prices of the salvaged materials. Such prices have fluctuated rather widely in recent years.

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Nine Agencies Join To Back Kansas School For Police

Training - Police

Nine public agencies are joining to support the fifth annual two-week Kansas Police School starting in Wichita next Monday (Nov. 8), to train city police, sheriffs, state highway patrolmen and other peace officers of the state. Unusual in having the active support of so large a number of coordinating agencies, the Kansas school emphasizes the growing recognition of the importance of training police officers in service, according to the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

Expected to draw an enrollment of 150 student officers, the two-week program will offer a variety of courses, including practical field work in conducting raids, investigations of hit-and-run accidents, and traffic law enforcement. Cooperating agencies are: the League of Kansas Municipalities, which held the first police school in 1931; the Kansas State Board for Vocational Education; the Traffic Safety Division of the International Association of Chiefs of Police; the National Safety Council; the Kansas Highway Patrol; the Kansas Peace Officers Association, the Kansas County Commissioners' Association, the University of Wichita, and the Wichita police department.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.1: For Mon., Nov. 8

States Face Heavy Claim Load As Jobless Benefit Deadline Nears

The 22 states which will begin to pay unemployment compensation benefits on January 1, are warned that they face a heavy load of claims at the very outset, in a report published today by the Public Administration Service of Chicago. This observation is based on an exhaustive study of the administration of unemployment compensation benefits in Wisconsin, the only state in which the benefits are now being paid.

"States beginning benefit payments in January with accumulated benefit rights will have a large volume of claims and full duration of individual payments from the start," the report finds. "From the standpoint of administration, January is one of the most difficult months in which to begin to pay benefits."

Finance is but one of the many administrative problems treated in the report.

More than 11,000,000 workers in 21 states and the District of Columbia are expected to become eligible on January 1 to draw unemployment benefits from trust funds estimated to total about $350,000,000. Most of the remaining states will begin paying benefits by January 1, 1939.

The report covering Wisconsin's experience was written by Walter Matscheck and R. C. Atkinson of the Committee on Social Security, Social Science Research Council. In unemployment compensation, Wisconsin has been regarded by researchers in the field as a sort of laboratory or experiment station.

Wisconsin's unemployment law passed in 1932, became fully operative in July 1, 1934 and was amended in 1935 to conform to the Social Security Act. Benefit payments were started July 1, 1936, after a year's postponement to meet requirements of the Social Security Act that two years of contributions must be payable before benefits may be paid.

By July 1, 1936, Wisconsin unemployment compensation fund collections and earnings totaled $13,850,855.55. From July 1, 1936 to June 30, 1937, $11,404,704.65 was added, and $963,783.94 was paid in benefits, leaving $24,291,776.26 in the fund as of July 1, 1937. In this year, 47,690 persons received benefit payments. In June, 1937, reporting establishments totaled 7,914 covering 460,303 employees; but benefit liability had begun for only 4,350 employers with about 420,000 employees, since liability does not start until a given employer has been subject to contributions for two years.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1937
Release No.2: For Tues., Nov. 9

Housing Leaders To Discuss Finance At Cleveland Session Next Week

Finance is the chief problem facing the city housing authorities being set up to put into effect locally the new national public housing program, the National Association of Housing Officials said today. Since the Wagner-Steagall law requires that 10 per cent of the project cost be raised locally rather than borrowed from the federal government, and also requires that local governments share in the subsidies necessary to effect low rentals, both local governments and the housing authorities through which they expect to act must review sources of credit and grants.

The cities new financial problem in housing will be one of the major questions to be discussed and acted upon by the hundreds of housing administrators and experts who will gather in Cleveland next week (Nov. 18-20) for the fifth annual conference of the National Association of Housing Officials.

It is pointed out that most local agencies have the powers necessary to issue their own bonds secured by revenues from the contemplated housing projects; powers which were never exercised under the previously centralized housing program. Several sources of credit have been suggested, and will be discussed at the Cleveland session. These include:

1. Private funds represented by investment banking interests.
2. Public funds held in various sinking funds or reserves, such as social security and public insurance reserves.
3. Special trust funds.

Miles L. Colean, Deputy Administrator, F.H.A., and Evans Clark, Economic Adviser, New York City Housing Authority, will be chairman and reporter respectively of the conference session on financial problems of housing authorities and directive agencies.

Among the speakers on the program are: Nathan Straus, newly appointed Administrator, United States Housing Authority; Mayor Harold H. Burton of Cleveland; Governor Frank Murphy, of Michigan; Carlos Contreras, President, National Planning Association of Mexico; Mayor Daniel W. Hoan, of Milwaukee.

George Gove, President of the National Association of Housing Officials, will open the first session; Ernest J. Bohn, of Cleveland, Past President, will preside at the first day's luncheon in the Hotel Statler.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.3: For Wed., Nov. 10

Flood Zoning Problem Again Engages Planners

Trains last week detouring or delayed on their regular runs to Baltimore and Washington because of the flood-swollen Potomac revived public attention on the question of whether more dams and spillways should be built for flood-control or whether near-river lands should be zoned against habitation and industrial use, the American Society of Planning Officials pointed out today.

While flood control through means other than dams is declared by planners to involve a very long-term program, with replanting of forests and other measures designed to curb the "little waters" at the heads of great rivers, zoning is seen as a ready tool for more immediate application. It has been thus used to a limited extent in New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Washington.

Flood zoning is to have an important part on the program of the nation-wide conference of planners on "The Theory and Practice of Zoning" in general which the National Resources Committee is sponsoring in Chicago December 13-15, aided by the American Society of Planning Officials.

Some planners regard floods as natural phenomena and place the blame for flood damage on human action. In other words, man's efforts to take over flood-plain advantages such as waterway facilities, fertile alluvial soils, flat building sites, etc., have cost him the price of flood damage.

As for river cities, it is believed that a careful inventory and analysis of land use is basic to effective action since haphazard relocation of industrial areas is obviously impractical. Such an analysis must take place before and not after a major flood. Land-use planning would entail determining the most economic use of flood-plain land.

Some authorities find that the land-use planner may help work out programs to check flood stages by: Devising zoning regulations to prevent constriction of stream channels; helping evaluate possible changes in rural land use in the tributary drainage area, and exploring land-use problems raised by levee, floodway and reservoir construction. He may assist in the problem of flood-plain readjustment by: Fostering measures to reduce flood damage with changes in prevailing land use; and helping to determine whether changes in the prevailing land use are desirable and feasible.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1 9 3 7
Release No.4: For Thurs., Nov. 11

State Opinions Split On Whether Federal Agency ~~Workers' Income~~ [illegible] Is Taxable

States make sharp distinctions in their rulings on whether income earned from the federal government through employment in the various temporary agencies is taxable, the National Association of Attorney-Generals said today, as the result of a survey of attorney-generals' opinions.

For example, the recent opinion of South Dakota's Attorney-General Claire Roddewig declares exempt from the state income tax salaries of those South Dakotans employed by the Public Works Administration, the Works Progress Administration and the Resettlement Administration because these activities are "an immediate and direct" exercise of sovereign governmental powers. Employees of the Home Owners Loan Corporation, Federal Housing Administration, Joint Land Banks and Federal Land Banks, on the other hand, must pay the tax, because these agencies are "banking corporations engaged in business usually carried on by private enterprise."

During the past year attorney-generals of such states as Montana, New York, West Virginia and Wisconsin have issued opinions as to state tax-exemption on federally-paid salaries. Distinctions established rest mainly on whether the agency in question is maintained by the U.S. government in its "proprietary" or its "governmental" capacity. Salaries from the former were declared taxable; from the latter, immune.

Among these attorney-generals there was unanimous agreement that both PWA and WPA were conducted in a "governmental" capacity, therefore salaries derived from these agencies were tax-exempt. On others of the temporary agencies their opinions differed.

Attorney-General Orland S. Loomis of Wisconsin, for example, ruled taxable salaries from 14 other federal instrumentalities, among them the Federal Home Loan Bank, Home Owners' Loan Corporation, Reconstruction Finance Corporation, Rural Electrification Administration and Federal Housing Administration. NRA and AAA employees were declared taxable because the organizations, though defunct, had been called unconstitutional. West Virginia's Attorney-General Clarence D. Meadows disagreed in part, finding FHA and HOLC employees "immune." Attorney-General Harrison Freebourn, of Montana, likewise put personnel of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation and the Regional Agricultural Credit Corporation in the taxable class.

The Kansas Supreme Court recently ruled that the income of a Federal Land Bank employee may be taxed under the Kansas law.

Although an attorney-general's opinion is not so conclusive as a court decision, the N.A.A.G. points out, it is the official guide of the tax-collecting officer until a court directs otherwise.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.5: For Fri., Nov. 12

Cameras Used To Help Cities Reappraise Property

The candid camera has been conscripted for municipal service--in the assessor's office. Supplied with miniature photographs of 90,000 buildings taken by crews of WPA photographers, the city of Toledo and its county, Lucas, are now completing a revised picture of real estate within their boundaries, according to the International City Managers' Association.

Recording the county's 350 square miles of property required the services of a small army of carefully trained WPA workers and deputy auditors. The only part of the reappraisal yet to be finished is the combination of land values with building values.

Steps in the process include: (1) Recording of legal description of each of the county's 155,000 parcels of property, together with street numbers; (2) Sending out field crews each composed of a deputy auditor and two WPA workers, who measured dimensions of lots and buildings; (3) Photographing of all buildings to 1 x 1½ inches in size, with prints pasted on block-unit maps; (4) Map making in central office, with calculation of land and building values.

To insure fairness in land valuation in different parts of the city and county, outstanding realtors and prominent land-owning farmers were enlisted as deputy auditors, says "Public Management," magazine of the International City Managers' Association. As an added precaution, government records of land productivity in farm lands of the area were checked, and Farm Bureau leaders and grange heads were consulted.

Toledo is only one of numerous cities that have taken steps to learn more about real estate for more equitable assessment purposes, using WPA labor. Land survey and land mapping, zoning and planning surveys, and preparation and installation of a complete system of land and building valuation are among projects accepted. About 95 governmental units have finished or are about to complete new property records alone. Four of these projects have been state-wide in scope. Texas, for example, sought to survey and classify all the rural land. Another project elsewhere has been state-wide, 25 have been county-wide and 65 have been in cities or towns.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.6: For Sat., Nov. 13

States Restrict Politics For Unemployment Compensation Workers

Political party duties and a job with the unemployment compensation division will not mix in most states where this branch of social security begins "paying out" early next year. Twenty-nine of the 48 state unemployment compensation laws place limitations on political activity of unemployment compensation employees, information from the American Public Welfare Association reveals.

All 29 states prohibit the employment of persons serving as officers or committee members of a political party organization; 15 extend this restriction to persons who hold or are candidates for public office. One state disqualifies members of the general assembly; another provides that not more than 60 per cent of the unemployment compensation personnel shall be of the same political party, and a third prohibits unemployment compensation employees from any form of political activity, including soliciting or receiving contributions for political purposes.

Nineteen of the states have laws providing that examinations be conducted to select unemployment compensation personnel on a merit basis, while in 10 other states with state civil service these workers have been brought under the existing systems. These states are: Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Illinois, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Ohio and Wisconsin. All but five of the remaining states have laws containing provisions charging the administrative agency with responsibility for developing personnel standards.

Los Angeles County Helps California Cities Set Up Civil Service

Small cities without facilities to establish and support adequate civil service departments may secure them on a contract basis in California. Los Angeles County, which offered the service as soon as the state act enabling "contracts" among various governmental jurisdictions was passed in 1935, this year, according to the Civil Service Assembly, added two more cities to the list it serves: Maywood, pop. 7,000, and Inglewood, pop. 15,700.

For these cities the Los Angeles County Civil Service Commission has taken over the duties of preparing civil service rules; calling and conducting examinations; providing bulletins announcing the examinations, and in several cases holding hearings on discharge, demotion and suspension of employees.

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News Bulletin of
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850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1937
Release No.1: For Sun., Nov. 14

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Officials To Gather In Cleveland For National Housing Conference This Week

Hundreds of housing administrators, city officials and technical experts from all sections of the country will gather this week in Cleveland for the fifth annual conference of the National Association of Housing Officials, opening next Thursday for a three-day session in the Hotel Statler. City financing of the big new national housing program, slum clearance and housing research and planning will be among subjects discussed and acted upon.

Nathan Straus, recently appointed by President Roosevelt as Administrator of the new United States Housing Authority, will speak before the annual dinner session of the Association Friday night, and Mayor Harold H. Burton will talk on "Cleveland Housing -- Now and In the Future." Senor Carlos Contreras, President of the National Planning Association of Mexico, will address the Conference at luncheon next Saturday.

George Gove, Secretary, New York State Board of Housing and President of N.A.H.O., will preside at the Thursday afternoon session. Ernest J. Bohn, of Cleveland, Past President of the Association, will act as chairman at the luncheon session the opening day.

Breakfast round-tables will feature Friday's sessions. Subjects and chairmen of the various round-tables will be: "What Are We Learning About Physical Standards?", A. C. Shire, Chairman, N.A.H.O. Committee on Physical Standards and Construction; "How Is the New Profession Coming Along?", Warren C. Campbell, Cleveland Manager for P.W.A. projects; "Neighborhood Rehabilitation and Building Repair," Harland Bartholomew, City Planner, St. Louis, Mo.; "Housing Associations and Administrators," Bernard J. Newman, Managing Director, Philadelphia Housing Association; "Internal Organization and Staffing of Local Authorities," A. Joseph Stewart, Chairman, Louisville Municipal Housing Commission; "Progress in Research and Planning," Chairman undecided; "Financial Problems of Housing Authorities," Miles L. Colean, Deputy Administrator, F.H.A.; "Who Will Carry On Tomorrow?", Frederick J. Adams, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

A field trip for delegates Friday afternoon will take in three Cleveland P.W.A. projects; blighted areas; Forest Hills, Shaker Heights and other well-known suburban developments.

The conference will end Saturday with reports on the round-table sessions, presided over by Langdon Post, Chairman, New York City Housing Authority, and Association committee meetings.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1937
Release No.2: For Mon., Nov. 15

Municipal Study Poses Problems For Conferees On Airport Dilemma

The airport situation has forged to the forefront of executive attention in American cities. An adequate answer will be sought at a meeting called by the U.S. Bureau of Air Commerce at a date now definitely set for December 6 in Washington, D.C.

Meanwhile a comprehensive study is being conducted by the American Municipal Association, whose previous research reports on the airport dilemma have furnished the basis of several state and national conferences on the problem. The report is being prepared jointly with the American Society of Planning Officials and will be published soon.

Cities, now that the first flush of enthusiasm caused by being on the air map is over, are beginning to exhibit a more realistic approach, a preparatory draft of the findings shows. Some cities are asking themselves these questions:

1. Do we need an airport?
2. If so, how much airport do we want, and how much can we afford, and what evaulations can be made of the inter-state benefits flowing from airports?
3. If the needs of the national airways are such that we can afford less than our geographic position and general relation to the airways indicate , who will provide how much toward balancing our airport budget?
4. With the giant new air transports to be placed in operation soon, requiring landing strips longer than most now existing, are many communities going to find that:
    a. Their present airports must be enlarged at great expense in order to maintain their present standing? or
    b. Because it is financially difficult or otherwise impractical, is it better to forego building an airport, or to allow the present port to drop in the national rating, perhaps finally becoming obsolete?

With these questions in mind, cities have felt that they need a clearer definition of the federal government's standards for airports, now and for the future, in order to gear their plans into any unified civil airways program. On the financing side, the city must examine its long-term capital improvement program and its current budget, to see where the airport stands on its list of priorities.

The American Society of Planning Officials (an association of national, state, county and city planning officials) has joined with the American Municipal Association (which represents nearly 7,000 cities through their state leagues of municipalities) because both these agencies feel that their position in the planning, financing and executing of a national airport program is an important factor in any solution of the airport dilemma.

Scheduled to be invited to the Washington conference December 6 are representatives of the American Municipal Association, the U.S. Conference of Mayors, the Aeronautical Chamber of Commerce, the Air Transport Association, the Post Office Department, the Works Progress Administration, and the Department of Commerce.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.3: For Wed., Nov. 17

Survey Shows Varied Results In Elections On Governmental Matters

The scattered November elections, used by commentators primarily to do a little crystal-gazing into the future political scene, furnish material also for forecasters in public administration. Success was divided on modernizing the mechanics of government as proposed in several local issues in the 1937 elections, a check by the Governmental Research Association revealed today.

A decided victory for the merit system was recorded in New Jersey, where, by a vote of more than three to one, 11 cities and 1 county placed their municipal employees under civil service. Widest referendum on the question since the New Jersey local option civil service law was passed in 1908, its results more than double the number of municipalities for which the state civil service commission conducts civil service examinations and provides other technical personnel services.

In New York state, where interest centered on New York City and its first proportional representation vote under its new charter, smaller communities voted on governmental revisions as follows: Westchester County approved a new charter providing for an elected executive head for the heretofore "headless" county government; Nassau County, under a similar charter, elected its first county executive, who will take office January 1, 1938; all four of the communities in the state voting on the council-manager plan of government (Erie and Schenectady counties, cities of Yonkers and Elmsford) failed to adopt it, although in Yonkers and Erie County adoption was defeated by a narrow margin.

Terms of New York's governor, lieutenant-governor, comptroller and attorney-general will hereafter be four years instead of two, as a result of constitutional amendments approved by voters November 2. Terms of state assemblymen were also lengthened from one year to two.

Pennsylvanians voted down a city-county consolidation measure for Philadelphia. Also defeated were amendments to permit the classification of property for taxation and a state income tax and the removal of the time-lock clause which would have made easier the amendment of the Pennsylvania constitution.

Kentucky's city-county reorganization proposal, designed for trial first in Louisville and Jefferson county, was defeated.

Bond issues and tax levies for special purposes figured in many of the local elections. San Franciscans, faced with proposals for nearly $55,000,000 in bond issues, turned down the biggest one--$49,250,000 for a rapid transit subway; but approved a $2,850,000 issue for airport improvements and a $1,600,000 issue for remodelling municipal hospitals. In Ohio, which has a low over-all property tax rate limitation, voters of a number of cities were asked to approve tax rates in excess of the constitutional limit for relief and other purposes. Opposition to increasing property taxes was registered in a majority of the cases. Columbus, following defeat of a 2.4 mill levy to provide $840,000 for the next two years' operation of city government, now faces curtailment of essential city services. Cleveland city coffers will be shy $10,000,000 in 1938 by defeat of a 9.7 mill levy November 2. Dayton, O. defeated a proposed levy to finance improvements on its airport and to purchase needed fire-fighting equipment.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
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1 9 3 7
Release No.4: For Thurs., Nov. 18

American Cities Facing Complex Problems, Survey Shows

City representatives, meeting in conferences held by state municipal leagues during the past month, pondered many a pressing problem indicative of the growing complexity of local government. Ten of these league meetings over the country made the following varied recommendations, a round-up by the International City Managers' Association shows:

In Kansas, cities took a concerted stand for a more equitable share of gasoline and motor vehicle taxes to maintain and construct city streets.

In North Carolina the League of Municipalities urged increase of vocational education for adults and youth in the public schools, to avoid loss of skilled workmen through long unemployment.

North Dakota cities decided that their delinquent tax problem, acute because of lax tax laws and severe economic and drouth conditions, might be partially solved if enforcement were more stringent and if cities, counties and school districts joined in collection campaigns.

Michigan cities seek a study of the entire tax structure, both state and local, results to be presented to a special session of the legislature on tax matters only.

Illinois cities requested from the legislature power to establish municipal parking lots, to regulare and license solicitors, canvassers and peddlers.

Virginia cities seek, among other new laws, legislation permitting them to undertake low-cost housing; increased state support of public schools; a more equitable distribution of gas tax receipts to cities and towns, and prohibition of fireworks except under certain conditions.

Texas cities opposed the waiving of penalties on delinquent taxes.

Nebraska municipalities urged uniform and up-to-date municipal accounting.

Kentucky cities authorized their league to ask the U.S. Bureau of Public Roads to extend municipalities the same matching of funds for municipal streets now extended to counties on farm-to-market roads. They also voted to seek legislation securing them a percentage of state auto license fees and gasoline taxes for city streets.

Wisconsin cities asked the state to pay one-half the relief costs for the next two years; petitioned the governor and legislature to enact permissive low-cost housing acts for cities and villages.

The above recommendations are reported in "Public Management," magazine of the International City Managers' Association.

The leagues, which altogether represent nearly 7,000 cities in 41 states, are nationally federated in the American Municipal Association, which affords them a clearing house for transfer of information on their common problems.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.5: For Fri., Nov. 19

Pub. welf. - Conference

American Public Welfare Association Calls Administrator-Conference In Washington

With 22 states beginning benefit payments on unemployment compensation January 1, a session on this subject will draw particular interest at the conference of the American Public Welfare Association in Washington, D.C. December 10-12.

More than 11,000,000 workers in 21 states and the District of Columbia are expected to become eligible the first of the year to draw unemployment benefits from trust funds estimated to total about $350,000,000. Most of the remaining states will begin paying benefits by January 1, 1939. Administration of the new unemployment compensation benefits raises many problems, inter-related with relief and employement service, of concern to public welfare administrators.

Among these are: the extent to which unemployment compensation benefits must be supplemented by relief; whether relief should be kept entirely separate and distinct from social insurance; the administrative and financial implications of such separation; methods of providing for workers who have exhausted their rights to benefits; and the procedures whereby the welfare department, the employment service, and the unemployment compensation agency may clear on their related functions.

Other subjects on the program of equal import to state and local administrators of public welfare are: Organization and Future Trends in Local Public Welfare Administration; The Administration of Public Assistance; In-Service Training; Personnel Procedures; The Relationship between Assistance and Social Insurance; Interstate Problems; Financing Public Welfare; Public Medical Care.

Panel discussion and round-table groups will run simultaneously through the conference, which will close with a general session, when reports will be made by each of the discussion groups.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
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1 9 3 7
Release No.6: For Sat., Nov. 20

San Diego Owners Back Law To Control Building Design

Architectural control by municipal ordinance is proving both satisfactory and popular in San Diego as a means of preserving good exterior building design. When the ordinance was passed three years ago, as an amendment to the building code, only part of the city fronting the principal highway was affected. Since then, according to the American Society of Planning Officials, four additional areas have been added, mainly on petition of property owners; and petitions are now being circulated to bring over 5,000 acres more under the same control.

The municipal ruling requires that all applications for building permits, plans, and specifications for buildings within the prescribed areas be referred by the Building Inspector to the City Planning Commission for approval as to the exterior design. If the design is approved, the building permit is issued. If it is not approved, the City Planning Commission confers with the applicant and recommends needed changes.

Cities which have made large investments in civic centers, construction of other important public buildings or in park sites frequently want to provide some method to prevent erection of ugly and inappropriate structures around such developments, points out the American Society of Planning Officials. Most municipal officials do not favor compulsory control. Voluntary control instigated by property owners themselves, as in San Diego, is regarded, therefore, as a possible solution to the problem.

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Personnel Public - Ex [illegible]

Milwaukee Tries Civil Service Tests For Election Workers

Civil service tests for election workers are on their way to becoming a custom in Milwaukee, according to the Civil Service Assembly. A test for election inspectors and ballot clerks held last February resulted in appointment of 350 workers to serve in the spring primary and election. Regarded as successful for securing efficient workers at the polls, the test will be repeated to establish a new eligible list for 1938 and 1939. Writing, spelling, simple arithmetic, tallying, filing, error-checking and civic information are the subjects included in the tests.

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1937
Release No. 1: For Mon., Nov. 22

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Census Shows 850 Jurisdictions In U. S. Under Civil Service

Over 850 governments in the United States select their employees on a civil service basis, according to preliminary figures released today on a forthcoming census of merit systems by the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada.

The census, first complete one ever to be made in this country, indicates that besides the federal government, 14 states, over 660 cities, and approximately 170 counties employ their personnel on a merit basis. Not all of the local units have their own personnel commissions: in at least 200 of the cities the merit systems are administered by state or other outside agencies and only 8 of the counties have independent civil service commissions.

Size and importance of the public personnel "business" are demonstrated in figures included in the report from the U. S. Department of Commerce, hitherto unreleased, for the year 1936. These show that:

Workers for federal, state and local governments, excluding work relief employees, drew $5,145,873 in salaries and pay for that year. At the federal level, $1,893,421,000 was paid out; $409,115,000, at the state level; $1,040,458,000, city; and $371,603,000 in minor civil divisions. School teachers drew $1,431,276,000. The increase in the total for one year--1935 to 1936--was $371,421,000; since 1929, it has been $422,480,000.

The civil service census is being made to collect definite information on the administration of public employment, which the past few years has come increasingly before the public eye, points out the Civil Service Assembly. Beginning with the business depression, citizen attention was focused on government, partly in the interests of economy, partly because new government services recruited extra personnel in large numbers. While civic campaigns have been directed mainly at bringing more federal government jobs under civil service, several governmental commissions making surveys have emphasized the need for extending the merit system down through the state and local jurisdictions. Determining the exact status of civil service in the local government picture is one of the chief objectives of the census.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
Release No. 2: For Tues., Nov. 23

Insurance, Unemployment - Wis

Employment agencies, Govt

Wisconsin Shows Worth of Joining Employment Service, Jobless Insurance Offices

States that tie in their unemployment compensation system with their public employment service will insure advantages to employer and worker alike. Wisconsin, already in its second year of complete unemployment insurance operation as 22 other states make ready for first benefit payments in January, 1938, has proved the truth of this principle, according to a report just published by Public Administration Service, Chicago.

Two questions were put to probe the Wisconsin set-up, which correlates the unemployment compensation and state employment services, even to housing them both in the same state and city offices:

1. Has the employment service been able to prevent malingering and reduce the number of benefit claimants by placement in other jobs?

2. Has the introduction of unemployment compensation tended to submerge placement activities and to weaken the employment service, as some employment service officials feared?

While evidence is "not yet sufficiently clear" to answer Question No. 1 specifically--no attempt has been made to distinguish "covered" from "non-covered" job-hunters in employment records and statistics--Wisconsin Employment Service officials believe the number of benefit claimants put on new jobs was "considerable." Examiners have stated, also, that they have seen little evidence that workers prefer drawing "benefits" to having a job.

The answer to Question No. 2 is definitely "No," says the report. Though unemployment compensation has at times overburdened the staff of individual employment offices and hampered normal placement operations, such conditions were usually of too short duration to react unfavorably upon the volume of placements.

Unemployment compensation has made possible the opening of additional offices and a large increase in personnel. Contrary to early fears that controversies over benefit claims and objections to unemployment compensation reporting requirements might injure the employer goodwill of the offices, employer relations have improved. Large numbers of employers have become acquainted with the offices, and the increase in the proportion of qualified workers registered has placed the service in a better position to satisfy employers' requirements. Employment service statistics show that, while private placements did not increase so rapidly in Wisconsin during 1936-37 as in the country as a whole, they had been at a higher level than in most states to begin with, and this level was maintained, with material increase, during the year.

The report, which was written by Walter Matscheck and R. C. Atkinson of the Committee on Social Security, Social Science Research Council, makes the recommendation that Wisconsin (presumably other states) could make still greater strides in coordinating these two divisions of unemployment compensation and employment service if they were administered in the future by the same agency, under one directing head.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No. 3: For Wed., Nov. 24

Mun. govt. - By manager

Report Reveals Governmental Facts On Small Cities

Governmental facts on the small city, whose importance is generally obscured by more pretentious municipal neighbors, are brought to light in a report issued today by the International City Managers' Association. The survey of 80 council-manager cities with populations under 5,000 shows that:

Nine of the cities report they are completely debt-free. Of the other cities, two are not in debt on general obligation bonds, 52 of them have no special assessment debt, and 44 are paying what debt they have on a long-term funded basis. The nine cities with clear financial consciences are: Anoka, Minn.; Crystal Falls, Mich.; Devol, Okla.; Marianna, Ark.; Mt. Pleasant, Iowa; Stambaugh, Mich.; Temiskaming, Quebec; Toccoa, Ga. and West Liberty, Iowa. The cities with general funded debt record obligations ranging from $1,000 to $1,000,000.

Comparison of the number of employees for these small cities means little, the report points out, since some of them, of village size, can perform their limited services with a staff of three, while a winter resort town in the same population class requires over a hundred employees. In most of the cities reporting, however, the manager has a number of titles because he functions more as an operator than as an administrator. In Baileyville, Maine, for example, he is chief of police, overseer of the poor, road commissioner and tax collector; in Upland, Calif., he is city engineer, street superintendent, building superintendent, electrical inspector, plumbing inspector, budget officer, water superintendent, park superintendent and purchasing agent. These positions are frequently set up in the charter, with provision that they may be held by the city manager until there is sufficient work to justify appointing additional personnel.

Fifty-eight of the cities reporting own and operate their own water works; and 17 own electric light plants; 21 have electric distribution systems; 9 have airports; 6 own gas distribution systems plants; 1, a water distribution system; and 1, port facilities. Thirteen of the cities do not own or operate any utilities. Some of these cities gain profit on these utilities for their general fund. Anoka, Minn., one of the debtless communities, applied $34,500 from such utility revenue to 1936 expenditures.

Most of the 80 cities have councils with five members, chosen for an average term of about three years. Terms of councilmen overlap in 53 cities. In 25 others, all council positions come up for election on the same date. In nearly half the 80 cities voters elect no other officers than councilmen and school board members. Cities that do vote on other officers most commonly elect the finance officer--treasurer, auditor or tax collector. The city clerk is elected in 17 of the cities.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Ill.

1 9 3 7
Release No. 4: For Thurs., Nov. 25

Pub. welfare [illegible]

Social Work Schools Bear Burden of Training For Expanded Public Welfare Activity

Social security programs, swinging into action in all the states, have placed a premium on the training of public welfare workers. Not a new task for schools of social service, preparing large numbers of workers for these positions raises a demand for expanded curriculums, bigger school budgets and higher professional standards, Dr. Elisabeth Wisner, president, American Association of Schools of Social Work, reported to the American Public Welfare Association today.

At present there are, scattered over the country, 32 schools belonging to the association of schools of social work, according to Dr. Wisner. An increasing number of universities are organizing new schools of social work. During 1935-36, over 10,000 students were training in these schools. "Although no figures exist either as to the present number employed in state and local welfare programs or the number of trained personnel that will be employed under existing conditions," said Dr. Wisner in "Public Welfare News," bulletin of the A.P.W.A., "undoubtedly wider opportunities for preparation, as well as an expansion of existing facilities, are indicated."

Besides training social workers from the ground up, the schools have other demands made upon them, Dr. Wisner pointed out:

Schools of social work should find themselves educating the majority of their students for a career service in government, and should organize their courses and field work practice so that these students will be prepared for civil service examinations held by federal, state and local governments.

Social work education should be offered at the graduate level, with the first year of a two-year course giving basic preparation, regardless of what position a student later hopes or expects to secure.

Schools of social work must aid the states confronted with the immediate problem of providing some type of in-service training for the large number of workers now being inducted into the various services without sufficient training. The training must be continuous and planned--not the short-time programs which served during the emergency period to familiarize workers with administrative procedures.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.5: For Fri., Nov. 26

Police Departments Install Crime Prevention Programs

Crime prevention, with emphasis on juvenile attention, is playing an increasingly important part in city police programs, according to reports received by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. During the past few months two municipalities--Richmond, Va. and El Paso County, Tex.--have begun operation of crime prevention programs, and Salt Lake City is contemplating a plan for reducing juvenile delinquency.

Richmond's new crime prevention bureau, established last month, has a personnel of four, including two policewomen. For the time being, the bureau will concentrate on problem children, with investigation of all juveniles who figure in arrests as either principals or witnesses.

El Paso County, Tex. is approaching the problem in a different manner, with inauguration of a ten-lesson "course" for high school boys that includes special training in police work, court procedure and criminal detection. The object is not to make policemen out of the boys, but to give them and their companions a better understanding of police problems and methods, incidentally to point out that "crime doesn't pay."

Salt Lake City's chief of police is working on a plan to reduce the disproportionately large amount of juvenile crime in that city by enlisting the cooperation of community agencies. This plan resembles the system followed in Los Angeles County, Calif., where a highly organized crime prevention division in the police department is aided in correctional work by 63 Coordinating Councils representative of social agencies and civic and church groups throughout the city.

The Los Angeles County Crime Prevention Division itself, as described in the current "Police Chiefs' News Letter," official bulletin of the I.A.C.P., is directly charged with the responsibility of applying preventive or curative treatment in all matters pertaining to delinquent children. Among its numerous sub-divisions are a liquor detail, which checks nightly on liquor-sale violations involving minors; a juvenile missing persons detail, which last year located and aided nearly 8,000 runaway boys and girls; a juvenile traffic detail, for handling all traffic law violations committed by persons under 18; and a "pre-delinquent" detail to check on juvenile loiterers found in suspicious situations. The Los Angeles Crime Prevention Division is on duty 24 hours a day to provide emergency service in all cases of crime and dependency affecting children.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.6: For Sat., Nov. 27

State govt. - Admin. - Wis.

Wisconsin Gets Reorganization Under Way

As Congress considers a bill that would see many changes in the administrative organization of the federal government, Wisconsin prepares to institute a reorganization of its state government authorized by recent special session of the legislature. Increasing the power and responsibility of the governor, the Wisconsin Reorganization Act, among other provisions:

Establishes a new Department of Commerce, to promote business, attract new industry, and study ways of expanding markets.

Sets up a State Board of Agriculture and Markets, to replace the 3-man commission which directed the former Department of Agriculture and Markets. Establishes the Wisconsin Agricultural Authority, a quasi-public, non-profit corporation, to aid the farmer by promoting high standards of quality, widening markets, improving shipping and merchandising methods and studying state farming conditions.

Replaces the Board of Control which managed the state's correctional institutions with two new departments: Corrections and Mental Hygiene.

Creates an interim committee of three senators, three assemblymen and a group of state officials to work with the governor in further reorganizing the administrative set-up. With the consent of the committee the governor is empowered to shift functions, divisions, boards and bureaus as seems most desirable. Changes become permanent unless rejected by either house of the legislature within 10 days of the next regular session's opening.

Wisconsin was one of 15 states, according to the Council of State Governments, that held special sessions during 1937, to finish the press of business of a heavily scheduled legislative year. Two states--Arizona and Texas--held two special sessions.

* * *

Planning Report On Retail Trade Useful To Many Agencies

Prophetic facts uncovered in a planning study may be useful to government and private agencies as well as to planning bodies when they are of the kind found by the Virginia State Planning Board recently on "retail trade." Summarized in the current American Society of Planning Officials News Letter, the report showed these facts:

(1) A more than normal increase in the number of eating and drinking places and volume of business, indicating trend away from family ties and household attractions. (2) Fewer "general stores," pointing to new types of merchandising in rural areas. (3) Increase in the number of filling stations, indicating greater use of automobiles. (4) Dependence of principal marketing centers on surrounding rural area. (5) Emphasis on house furnishings, contrasting with home-making activities. (6) Gains in dollar purchasing value insufficient to offset loss in total purchasing power.

This trend in retail business is noted, not as an indication of a cause but of an effect of the change in the whole pattern of the "urban type of living"--from the style of "compact urban community to a more widely dispersed population extending beyond the city boundaries, leaving behind within the cities populations of less density than before."

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1 9 3 7
Release No.1: For Mon., Nov. 29

Health Aspects Of Milk Control Stressed In Municipal ~~Report~~

Facts on national, state and city regulation of the dairy industry, source of one-fifth of the agricultural income of the country, employer of thousands, and producer of a liquid food regarded as essential to health, are contained in a report publication of which was announced today by the American Municipal Association.

Stressed in the report, published for the Association by the Public Administration Service of Chicago, is the current need for wider introduction and improvement of milk regulations, delayed during depression years, and the need for cooperation of the cities to make control effective.

Milk regulations fall into three classes. Those which deal with price control and the marketing of milk, and those which aim at the elimination of bovine tuberculosis are passed and enforced almost exlusively by the states; those governing the conditions of production and the quality of milk supplies are within the province of the cities.

Four out of every five communities with population ranging from 1,000 to 10,000, according to the report, do not regulate the conditions of production or distribution of milk at all. Less than 40 per cent of the milk consumed in such communities is pasteurized. However, the average pasteurization in 1931 for cities with 10,000 to 25,000 inhabitants was 58.6 per cent, and for all cities over 10,000, it was 87.5 per cent.

Covering steps taken thus far by federal, state and local authorities for sanitary regulation of the milk supply, the report points out that the federal government itself lacks power to control the conditions of the production of milk except that which enters into interstate commerce. Its function at present is mostly to advise the state and local governments, working through the U.S. Public Health Service and the Department of Agriculture. The position of state governments varies. In some cases the state itself enforces certain regulations; in others, local authorities are compelled to enforce state laws, and in still others, regulation is optional with municipalities.

A model milk control ordinance to aid city milk inspection has been available since 1923. About 700 communities, representing a population of some 18 millions, now have this ordinance, which costs, on an average, 8.3 cents per person per annum to administer. Ways of financing administration of a model milk ordinance (which should include services of a full-time, trained milk inspector) are discussed in the report, as well as the specific regulations concerning the production, processing and distribution of milk products that can be incorporated into any municipal ordinance. Communities too small to finance adequate administration, it is pointed out, can collaborate on their efforts.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.2: For Tues., Nov. 30

Unemployment relief -

Cincinnati Test Finds That Adding Caseworkers Saves On Relief

While dozens of American cities struggle with the problem of reducing their relief budgets, the American Public Welfare Association published today results of an interesting experiment made by Cincinnati on the caseworker angle. Instead of cutting the number of caseworkers, as many cities have done to save on costs, the Ohio city tried the device of putting more of them on the job, giving them lighter case loads and careful supervision.

Cincinnati found, by this experiment, that it could save $8700 per 100 relief cases--nearly one-third--through closing the cases in a shorter time. Closing of a case involves securing jobs or some other financial support for the relief recipient or perhaps solving his health problems and generally rehabilitating him. Results of the experiment, tried over a year ago, are made known for the first time in the report, which was written by Ellery F. Reed, director of research, Cincinnati and Hamilton County Community Chest.

In making the experiment, caseworkers in one district of Hamilton County were divided into two groups: "regular" and "experimental." The first group carried the area's usual load of 118 cases (caseworkers in several other large cities carry as many as 200 these days). Workers in the second group had charge of 108 families or cases and were under full-time direction of a "supervisor assistant." Over the period of the experiment, the average number of cases closed by each caseworker per month was 11.6 for the regular group; 16 for the experimental group. The average time from the opening of a case until its closing was 10.2 months for the regular group, as compared with only 6.8 months for the experimental group.

On the basis of 100 average cases, the cost in relief for those handled by the "regular" group totaled $25,500; for those of the "experimental" group, it was $17,000. "Service costs," represented by the salaries of the caseworkers, were $1080 for 100 average cases handled by the first group as against $850 for 100 average cases handled by the second group. The total saving on cases handled by the group with the lighter case loads, therefore, was $8730.

In terms of human economy, the report points out, there were additional savings. "If cases can be closed constructively in seven months instead of allowing them to drag on unnecessarily to more than 11 months," the report says, "it constitutes a measure of successful treatment in the welfare field as truly as it would in the medical field. The shorter the duration of dependency, the less likely it is to leave permanent handicaps, assuming that cases are not closed arbitrarily."

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1937
Release No.3: For Wed., Dec. 1

4 States To Confer On Delaware Basin Problems Next Week

Pure water and its supply for Philadelphia, New York and other cities which tap the Delaware River, as main objectives of the broad program of the Interstate Commission on the Delaware River Basin, will be reported upon when the Commission, representing the four states of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Delaware, holds its second annual conference in Philadelphia, December 10-11.

Reports of work accomplished during the last year by the Commission's three technical advisory committees will indicate what success this new agency, operating under the auspices of the Council of State Governments, is having in coordinating the activities of four states and the federal government for the solution of problems which have faced the region for many years.

The Committee on Planning will have completed detailed base maps of the Basin, to show fundamental physical features, population distribution, topography and water resources. The Committee on Quality of Water of the Delaware River and its tributaries, which has been concerned with the establishment of standards of purity, will present its tentative conclusions. The Committee on Quantity of Water will report results of its year's investigation of reasonable approaches to Delaware River allocation and diversion problems.

The proposed federal legislation relating to regional conservation authorities and stream pollution control will be discussed in another part of the program. Participating in the form on that subject will be representatives of the federal, state and local governments, and others who will present the viewpoints of engineer, lawyer and public health authority. Governors of the four states and United States Senators and Congressmen of the area also have been invited to the conference.

Dr. Arthur E. Morgan, Chairman of the Tennessee Valley Authority, will speak at the dinner meeting on December 10, on "The Federal Government and the States, within the Regions." Among other speakers on the program are: Dr. Abel Wolman, Chairman Water Resources Committee, National Resources Committee; State Representative Ellwood J. Turner, of Pennsylvania, and State Senator Robert C. Hendrickson of New Jersey.

The Interstate Commission on the Delaware River Basin, popularly known as InCoDel, was formed in 1936, under sponsorship of the Council of State Governments, to correlate plans of the four Delaware Basin states for conservation and the use of natural resources.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.4: For Thurs., Dec. 2

Zo

Many Cities Finding Themselves "Over-Zoned"

The extent to which a zoning ordinance actually protects a community against undesirable intrusion is a question bothering a number of American cities, the American Society of Planning Officials said today.

Most of the urban population of the United States resides in zoned communities, which are now analyzing themselves to determine the value of their zoning ordinances. Zoning is generally regarded as an effective influence in protecting residential and commercial areas and stabilizing land values, and in making cities more desirable places than they would be if subject to no such control.

Planners believe that a great many cities are over-zoned for commercial and industrial purposes. Present industrial and population trends are cited to prove that much of the land so zoned will never be used for commercial or industrial purposes. Its zoning in these classifications, however, actually prevents it from being used for any other purpose.

As an example, the City Plan Commission of Chicago, in a recent report, found that in 1923 when the city was zoned, 49 square miles were allocated for manufacturing purposes, but that actually only 26 square miles were so used. From 1923 to 1936, less than one per cent of this surplus manufacturing property was taken up, the report showed.

Planning authorities have given a great deal of thought to the problem of over-zoning and the correlative question of appropriate zoning regulations. While they would not consider a non-changeable zoning ordinance desirable for any city, one that does not need frequent change is believed necessary.

These and other questions which come within the scope of zoning, in rural as well as in urban areas, will be discussed at the forthcoming zoning conference to be held in Chicago Dec. 13 and 14 under auspices of the National Resources Committee, with the cooperation of the American Society of Planning Officials.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1937
Release No.5: For Fri., Dec. 3

Tax Administrators'Unit To Meet In Atlantic City

The entire range of taxes by means of which governmental units in the United States raise approximately $12,500,000,000 annually will come up for discussion at the three-day conference of the National Association of Tax Administrators beginning Sunday (Dec. 5) in Atlantic City, N.J.

State administrators also will receive first-hand information on federal tax problems and their relationship to those of the states in addresses by Senator Pat Harrison of Mississippi, Chairman of the Senate finance committee, and Congressman R. L. Doughton of North Carolina, Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee.

Added burdens placed upon all units of government in the past few years, particularly the public assistance phases of the social security program, have placed heavy responsibilities on tax administrators, officials of the National Association of Tax Administrators point out, adding that one of the principal points of discussion at the Atlantic City Conference will deal with the possibilities of plugging loopholes of evasion and improving the administration of present tax laws so that new taxation can be held to a minimum.

Only tax administrators and a few invited outside experts will attend the meeting

Among the types of revenue measures scheduled for discussion are levies on retail sales, property, gasoline, cigarettes and other tobacco products, alcoholic beverages, chain stores and net income.

Headquarters of the Association are maintained in the offices of the Federation of Tax Administrators, which is the most recent secretariat established in the Chicago group of national governmental organizations.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1 9 3 7
Release No.6: For Sat., Dec. 4

More States Study Legislative Council Program

Fifteen Illinois state senators and representatives were absorbed spectators recently at a meeting of the Kansas Legislative Council in Topeka. Newly-appointed members of the 20-man Illinois Legislative Council established this year, they had come to take a lesson from the four-year-old Kansas agency conceded to be a model of its kind.

Illinois, like five other states, has followed Kansas and Wisconsin, first adopter of the Legislative Council idea, in appointing a group of legislators to examine proposed new laws during the session interim and to make recommendations. Two others of these states--Connecticut and Nebraska--made the provision this year, according to the Council of State Governments.

The Kansas Legislative Council is viewed as one of the most active and successful of the agencies so far established. With a membership of 15 representatives and 10 senators, plus the presiding officers of each house, it meets four times a year between legislative sessions. Its biggest job is to collect information and prepare a legislative program for consideration by the next legislature. It is also directed to investigate possibilities for consolidation in state administrative agencies; to study opportunity for local government reform, and to cooperate with the administration to improve administrative law and methods. The first year the council met, in 1933, 60 per cent of its proposed bills became law in the special session. With a constitutional limitation on regular sessions of two months every two years, Kansas finds that the Legislative Council is a decided help in facilitating legislation.

Kentucky, Michigan, Virginia, Wisconsin, Illinois, Connecticut, Nebraska and Kansas comprise the list of states with legislative councils. Wisconsin's was established in 1931. Colorado has a Committee on Interim Committees which is somewhat similar to a legislative council. Interest in the council device is spreading, according to the Council of State Governments. Citizen organizations and governmental consultants in such states as California, Iowa, Ohio, Oklahoma and Washington have recommended its use.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
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1937
Release No.1: For Mon., Dec. 6

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Cities Have Spent $300,000,000 For Airports, Municipal Study Shows

Seven hundred and thirty-eight cities have constructed airports at a total investment of more than $300,000,000, the American Municipal Association estimated today, in disclosing the results of an exhaustive study of this country's municipal airport activity-- a study which includes suggestions for improved planning, financing and operation.

Seventy-eight of 84 airport operators reporting on the question of operating profit or loss, revealed that this loss in 1936 averaged $13,332.51 per port, making a total for the 78 ports of $1,039,936.

The study was conducted to collect information for the meeting in Washington today (Dec. 6) of representatives of municipalities and of the aviation industry, with the Bureau of Air Commerce and other interested federal agencies seeking to solve the country's airport problems. Municipal authorities feel that the interstate commerce character, and the national defense aspects of airport use, stamp the problem as national rather than local.

A recent survey of 116 municipalities shows that they have paid an average of $508,705.52 for purchasing, constructing and extending their airports, the study says. Kansas City and Detroit each reported an outlay of $5,700,000, while one city, Norfolk, Neb., said it had spent only $600. The total capital outlay for these 116 ports was $59,030,841. "Even allowing for a considerable margin of error," the study shows, "it is probable that the cities of this country have spent more than $300,000,000 to acquire the 738 municipal airports in existence on January 1, 1937."

A survey made in 1930 by the Harvard University School of City Planning found that 31 cities incurred an average annual cost of $27,052.54. for maintenance and operation. In 1936, twenty of these cities reported an average annual cost of $29,683.45. Eighty-eight municipally-owned airports reported an average operating cost of $19,862.37. Pittsburgh suffered the greatest annual operating loss-- $179,057.

"These figures, " the study shows, "cover primarily operation. If the cost of depreciation, of payments for interest and principal on airport bonds and other similar items were included, not one of the 88 airports would have reported a profit, and the average loss of the majority might easily have been doubled or tripled. As it was, only six ports of the 88 reported a profit, and their average profit was $561."

The current effort of all the various agencies interested in the airport problem is to arrive at some conclusion, so that the cities will be able to chart their course in face of the airport expansion demanded with the increasing requirements of aviation in general, and of the national airways program in particular.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1937
Release No.2: For Tues., Dec. 7

"Service Must Justify Revenue," Basis Of New Municipal Finance Program

Seeking to find a way out of the financial dilemma now confronting American cities, the Municipal Finance Officers' Association of the United States and Canada announced today the start of a new program among its hundreds of city members here and in Canada.

The new program was launched by appointment of two committees, one on Local Government Activities and Revenues, the other on Special Assessments. Each Committee has 18 members, drawn from all parts of this country and from Canada. It is considered that these committees will cover the fields most critical in the current municipal finance problem.

"The necessity for cities to balance the increased demand for services with the revenues at hand requires a double-edged approach," said Arthur C. Meyers, Budget Director of St. Louis and President of the M.F.O.A. "Every unnecessary service must be dropped by the local governments. Money must be spent in the most effective way. Revenue systems must be adapted to the program of activities by revising the revenue structure in whole or in part, and by administering revenue laws fairly and forcibly."

The expressed purpose of the new revenue committee is to "present a clear statement of the present situation respecting the relationship of local government revenues and their activities." The committee will proceed on the assumption that revenues allocated to any type of government can be justified only by the services performed. It will be the committee's job to formulate a set of principles "to which all public bodies can pin their faith in the mad scramble of revenue sources and governmental activities."

The committee will seek a type of program adaptable to any state. It will attempt to assist local officials to make public information on the revenue needs of local government, and to carry on educational compaigns in their own communities to give "a more rational view of the place of the city hall in community life."

Charles J. Fox, City Auditor of Boston, is chairman of the revenue committee and John R. Lindsay, Louisville's Director of Finance, chairman of the special assessments committee.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1 9 3 7
Release No.3: For Wed., Dec. 8

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Administrators To Discuss Welfare Problems Aggravated By Unemployment

With predictions for unemployment increases for the winter months ranging from 1,000,000 to 2,500,000, delegates to the meeting of the American Public Welfare Association in Washington, D.C. this week-end (Dec. 10-12) will attack administrative problems they face in direct relief and other welfare programs.

Hundreds of federal, state and local welfare administrators are expected to attend the three-day conference. The round-table method, permitting mutual consideration and discussion of experience, will be used mainly. Speakers at a dinner meeting Friday evening will include J. H. Biggers, administrator of the recent unemployment registration, on "The Objectives and Meaning of the Unemployment Census;" Nathan Straus, administrator of the Federal Housing Authority, on "Housing and Public Welfare;" J. Douglas Brown, chairman of the advisory council of the Social Security Board, on the work of the council; and H. Jerry Voorhis, member of Congress from California, on "Planning for Social Welfare."

First-day meetings will include simultaneous round-table conferences. State public welfare administrators or their authorized deputies meet with Charles F. Ernst, Director of the Washington State Department of Social Security, as chairman. Public welfare administrators for urban areas will confer on such subjects as organization and future trends in local public welfare administration, with William Hodson, New York City's Commissioner of Public Welfare, as chairman. State and local public welfare board members will discuss their functions in public welfare programs at the third round-table, chairman of which is William J. Guste, Chairman Board of Public Welfare, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Other round-table groups will continue on the second and into the third day of the conference. Subjects and chairmen of these groups include: training welfare staff members on the job, Ruth Hill, Deputy Commissioner of Public Welfare, New York City; personnel procedures, Dr. Leonard D. White, University of Chicago; the relationship between public assistance and social insurance, Stanley B. Mathewson, Director, Department of Economic Security, Ohio State Employment Service, Cincinnati; and interstate problems in public welfare, William J. Ellis, Commissioner of Institutions and Agencies, Trenton, N. J.

The administration of public assistance will be discussed in a panel session, with Robert T. Lansdale, New York School of Social Work, chairman; and the financing of public welfare in another panel, with Frederic C. Walcott, Commissioner of Welfare, Hartford, Conn., chairman. Sunday morning there will be panel discussion on public medical care, with Frank X. Kelly, Commissioner of Public Welfare, Rochester, N. Y., as chairman. A general conference session Sunday afternoon will bring reports from various conference session leaders to the assembly.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1 9 3 7
Release No.4: For Thurs., Dec. 9

Kalamazoo Burns "Last Bond" As City Becomes Debt-Free

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Kalamazoo, Mich., proud of being the only American city over 50,000 population free of general bonded indebtedness, soon will symbolically bury its last retired bond in a little ceremony in City Manager E.C. Rutz's office in City Hall. A photograph taken of "the cremation of the last bond" will be hung on the wall. Attached to its frame will be a glass tube containing the bond's ashes.

Kalamazoo became debt-free on November 1, 1937, through a pay-as-you-go policy that was inaugurated twenty years ago, according to a report to the International City Managers' Association made by Mr. Rutz.

In 1918, when the first city manager took office, outstanding municipal obligations totaled nearly $500,000. Twenty-three per cent of the 1918 budget went for principal and interest charges on this debt. The tax rate had been 8.5 mills on a $49,000,000 assessed valuation under the previous form of government, when the council borrowed to keep down the immediate tax rate. The new non-partisan council decided to reduce the debt and its ever recurring interest costs rather than to maintain a deceivingly low tax rate by continued borrowing. The rate was boosted to 13.5 mills; a detailed annual budget with strict control of appropriations was initiated, and a long-term plan adopted for municipal expenditures, building up anticipatory cash reserves.

Through depression years the pay-as-you-go policy remained in force, except for a $295,000 bond issue floated in 1932 for emergency relief. So secure was the city's financial position that even this borrowing was retired within five years.

Other cities are testing the practicality of pay-as-you-go financing. Lansing, Mich. lifted itself from a debt morass in the same manner. Milwaukee, using current taxes to finance municipal operations, capital improvements and interest and principal on obligations, expects to be free of debt by 1943. Greenwich, Conn. for two years has followed a pay-as-you-go plan for capital improvements. Topeka employs the system for current operations and improvements.

Economical Kalamazoo has not been parsimonious, according to Mr. Rutz, who writes in "Public Management," journal of the International City Managers' Association. It has constructed a new city hall costing more than $500,000; motorized its fire department; acquired a 300-acre airport, two municipal golf courses and an asphalt plant; built several bridges and improved recreation grounds; added to the city lighting plant and water works, and paid its portion of federal-city projects running to several million dollars. The tax-rate long ago dropped from the 13.5 mills of 1920. During the last ten years it has averaged 10.8 mills, and for the last four years, 9.7.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1937
Release No. 5: For Fri., Dec.10

Pensions - Old age

Grants To States To Reach $500,000,000 Yearly For Old Age Aid Alonc, Study Shows

The new social security program will eventually involve federal grants to states of unprecedented size-- $500,000,000 a year for old age assistance alone, says V. O. Key, jr., in a book published today by Public Administration Service, on "The Administration of Federal Grants to States." His study, one of a series on administrative problems of social security, reviews past experience with grants-in-aid, which in 1936 exceeded three-quarters of a billion dollars.

These grants have helped, among other things, agricultural experiment stations, vocational education, forest fire control and public health, with the largest amount, $436,000,000, going for emergency relief. The best-known grants, up to 1930, were for highways, but these never exceeded $100,000,000 a year.

While much has been written about the financial and legal problems of this device for turning over to the states for expenditure money that was raised by the federal government, Dr. Key's study is the first to describe the working relations set up between the national and state governments in spending these vast sums. Dr. Key discusses and evaluates such administrative devices as the review of state budgets, federal inspection, field service, the audit, and records and reports. He also deals with federal and state organization, state personnel and the division of federally-aided activities.

"The growth of the system of federal grants to states has profoundly modified our federal system," Dr. Key observes. "The intrinsic importance of the grant system as it stands, together with the probability of its future expansion, makes desirable an anlysis of the problems peculiar to this province of public administration."

The study was conducted under auspices of the Committee on Public Administration of the Social Science Research Council.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.6: For Sat., Dec. 11

Automobiles - Theft

Dallas Passes License Law To Block Stolen Car Sales

Dallas, Tex. has launched a new plan to prevent the sale of stolen automobiles, to control car dismantling and to regulate the sale of used vehicles, by putting into effect a stringent ordinance to license dealers in new and used motor vehicles, trailers, parts and accessories.

The ordinance sets up an advisory commission of seven members, including representatives of automobile dealers, appointed by the city manager, a report to the International City Managers' Association shows. Applicants for licenses are thoroughly investigated by police, who report to this commission, which recommends or refuses that the license be granted by the city council. Refused, an applicant may go to the council for a hearing; but this action is final and not reviewable by the courts except on charges of fraud or gross abuse of discretion.

Used car dealers in Dallas pay a license of $50 a year; sellers of used cars and parts, $25. Itinerant dealers must, in addition, post a $10,000 bond. Vehicles sold or exchanged by these dealers must comply with local safety requirements. Permits are necessary for dismantling of motor vehicles.

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Wisconsin Adds Field Men, Collects $4,275,000 More Income Taxes

Wisconsin, one of the 34 states with some kind of income tax law, has taught itself a lesson in economical administration, reports the Federation of Tax Administrators. The lesson began back in 1911, when the Wisconsin income tax law was passed. From that date to 1920, the Income Tax Division was allotted only enough funds to employ one or two office auditors; 35 district assessors for work with individuals, and three or four agents to take care of corporation assessments. The 35 assessors scattered over the state were not trained accountants; consequently, the returns received little or no scrutiny, and taxables in many cases went undeclared.

After 1920, additional money was appropriated to employ field investigators. Results were so favorable that additional field men were added. During 1936 income tax collections jumped $4,275,000, considered to be a direct result of office and field investigations.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No. 1: For Mon. Dec. 13

Cities Urged To Map Careful Plans For Annual Battle To Cut Snow Losses

Cities in the snow-belt, where snow-fighting has assumed almost the emergency stature of fire-fighting, again are putting into effect their annual campaigns against winter's smothering, white blanket. Business losses of millions of dollars; hazards to motor and pedestrian travel, and the crippling of fire, police and other emergency services have aroused public demand to the point where cities have shown a gradual but steady development in snow removal operations, the American Public Works Association said today, in announcing preparation of a study on this subject.

"Economically, however, snow removal service far beyond that now provided in most cities can be shown to be sound," the study finds. "If lost time and business inconveniences, vehicle losses, and ill health caused by inadequate snow removal could be evaluated, the amount undoubtedly would be many times that expended on removal operations."

The American Public Works Association study recommends, since "snow removal is distinctly of an emergency nature," that careful planning for snow-fighting be made before the need for emergency action arises. Planning is regarded as essential if the program is really effective and if the most good is to be obtained for the money expended. This plan should include careful advance organization; arrangements for adequate personnel in the way of laborers, equipment operators, foremen, clerks, and timekeepers; equipment and supplies ready at day or night notice, and detailed operating procedures worked out on the mapping basis. "One small detail ignored or forgotten may disrupt the entire operation," it is observed.

Sometimes the street cleaning organization is used as a skeleton around which the larger organization is developed, and the street cleaning chief is usually the responsible official. Cincinnati has two organizations, one for light and average snows; the other for heavy snows. Some cities, such as Baltimore, use their own employees; others employ extra assistance, such as that provided by relief and welfare agencies. Railway and bus company activities in snow removal must be correlated with any city plan for the purpose. Of 68 cities reporting on snow plowing, for instance, the street car and bus companies of 42 do plowing or mechanical sweeping. Such companies load and haul snow in only 14 of the 68 cities responding to this query.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1 9 3 7
Release No. 2: For Tues., Dec. 14

Cities Act Under National Program To Train Public Employees "On Job"

A large share of numerous grants ranging from $12,000 to $450,000 will be used by states and localities before December 31 to train public employees "on the job" under the expanded program by which the United States government has allotted $6,000,000 of the $14,000,000 appropriated for vocational education under the George-Deen Act, the American Municipal Association pointed out today.

Emphasizing the greater flexibility in financing public service training under the new program, the Association, which is the national federation of 40 state leagues of municipalities, urged its member leagues to assist their cities in drafting training plans eligible for these funds for the second half of the fiscal year. At the same time, the A.M.A. announced a study project to trace the progress of such programs in the nation's municipalities.

Appropriations paid out recently went to all but two states, and Alaska and the District of Columbia. To be matched 50-50 by states and localities, they ranged from $12,000 to $450,000 for the six-month period ending December 31 this year. Part of this sum goes to aid financing of the long-established agricultural, domestic, and trade industrial training known under the Smith-Hughes Act. Part of it goes for the new training of public service employees made possible a year ago by Congressional action.

"In the past," the Association said, "federal and state funds could be matched only through the local school board. If the school board was uninterested in public service training, or unwilling or unable to cooperate, local matching was made very difficult or impossible. Now federal and state funds can be matched with public funds under supervision of any competent public board or authority."

The in-service training program under way in Michigan is an example of such local activity. Most of the Michigan program is organized by the State Board for Vocational Education, with an unsalaried advisory committee for each public service training activity undertaken.

Michigan proceeds on the theory that it is better to outline well-coordinated training courses rather than to "hit the high spots" in short conferences. Thus far Wayne University of Detroit is conducting evening courses for public employees on election administration; Detroit government; assessments; governmental correspondence and report writing; local government law; municipal sanitation; public personnel administration; public speaking, and public transportation.

For 1938, activities in Michigan will probably be confined to intensive work in four general activities: fire departments; police departments; assessors and electric light plant employees, and expansion of the Wayne evening courses.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
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Release No. 3: For Wed., Dec. 15

Relief Labor To Aid Cities At Outset Of New Housing Programs

[illegible] - Demolition

Since W.P.A. has decided to keep demolition of unfit housing on the list of its approved projects, cities have a chance to economize on the first phase of whatever low-cost housing they plan when the new U.S.H.A. program swings into action the first of the year, the National Association of Housing Officials pointed out today.

Demolition (or closing or repair of unfit housing) equal in amount to new construction is required under provisions of the Wagner-Steagall Act that created the United States Housing Authority. How cities are to interpret the phrase "equal in amount" will be announced along with other regulations on the new program, scheduled to be issued by U.S.H.A. before January 1. Meantime, says the National Association of Housing Officials, W.P.A. labor stands available for clearance on both public and privately-owned land, so that useless and hazardous structures can be wrecked and cleared as part of a city's slum clearance quota.

W.P.A. labor can be used without question for demolition on public sites. Projects involving work on private property must follow certain rules to be eligible:

(1) Satisfactory evidence must be produced indicating that the demolition will not greatly enhance the value of the property to the owner. (2) Where the project's principal purpose is to safeguard public health or safety, the property must be judged a hazard by some appropriate and responsible public agency with legal authority. (3) Evidence must be produced that there is no practicable method by which the private owner of the property can be compelled to demolish the building at his own expense. (4) The materials obtained by demolition are to become the property of a public agency.

Work relief projects of C.W.A., E.R.A. and W.P.A. from November 7, 1933 to December 31, 1936 demolished 7,486 buildings, comprising 20,928 living units in 32 states. The federal government's cost therein was $10,373,744; the sponsors', $1,135,372. However, few cities have used this method of clearing old and useless dwellings. New York demolished 11,399 worn-out living units from 1933-1936 virtually all by relief labor; but Milwaukee cleared 1,668 units from 1932-1936 solely on condemnation order, under its police power.

The absence of orderly, continuous municipal records of condemnation, closing, repair or demolition activities in most cities will hamper them considerably in complying with requirements of the new public housing program, the N.A.H.O. points out. Both W.P.A. and U.S.H.A. make it clear that cities must assume all possible responsibility for the control of conditions that actually constitute a hazard to the community. The Housing Authority offers loans and grants to aid in production of low-rent housing accommodations. The Works Progress Administration offers man-power to aid cities' regular demolition activities, but not to substitute for them.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
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1 9 3 7
Release No.4: For Thurs., Dec. 16

Cities Checking Income Tax Returns Report Sharp Assessment Rise

Washington, D. C. and Providence, R. I. between them have boosted their tax revenues by $1,000,000 and Cook County (Chicago) Ill. foresees a property tax rate reduction from $9.52 to $8.00 per hundred as the result of checking federal income tax returns for local tax assessment. This fact was reported today as part of a study by the National Association of Assessing Officers.

Fred T. Allen, City Assessor of Washington, D. C., reports that he has added 4500 new personal property accounts, extending taxes by some $400,000 through use of the three-year-old Costigan Amendment, the federal provision that permits assessors to scrutinize income tax returns. In Providence, R.I., the Board of Assessors finds the assessment virtually doubled, with a gain of approximately $600,000 in tax revenues. The tabulation of Cook County, Ill. is incomplete, but Assessor John S. Clark estimates that the increase in personal property assessments in 1937, including tangibles and intangibles, will be approximately 80% over 1936. Substantial increases are also shown in tangible personalty assessment, and it is estimated that the larger tax base will permit a reduction in the general property tax rate.

The National Association of Assessing Officers reports that only a few local assessors have been able to make full use of the Costigan Amendment provision, designed to forward assessment equalization. As originally passed in 1934, and revised in 1935, the Amendment contains a somewhat ambiguous passage that, by U. S. Treasury Department ruling, gives state tax officers alone the right to examine federal income tax returns. Local assessors, therefore, must have the cooperation of the state tax agency to gain access to the records.

The N.A.A.O. report enumerates steps that must be taken by local assessing officers who wish to examine the returns, available for one year after they are filed, and explains how assessors find them useful in checking local tax evasion. It emphasizes the fact that the information must be carefully safeguarded. A fine of $1000 or a year's imprisonment or both awaits any officer, employee or agent of any state or political subdivision who divulges such information for unauthorized purposes.

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News Bulletin of
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850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1937
Release No.5: For Fri., Dec. 17

Personnel, Public - Classificati

New Civil Service Agencies Face First Task In Classifying Positions

The dozens of cities and the several states that have adopted civil service this year and are now installing their new personnel systems find that the first step is to classify positions at city hall and the capitol.

"Position-classification" has come to have an important role in the modern personnel administration of American cities and states. But it is often confused in the public mind, because it is not clearly distinguished from other civil service processes, salary plans, budget limitations and organization control, according to Ismar Baruch, Chief of the Division of Personnel Classification of the U. S. Civil Service Commission.

In a report made for the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada, Mr. Baruch makes this distinction between position-classification and salary plans:

A position-classification plan is a device for separating positions into similar groups, with well-defined responsibilities and duties. A pay plan serves to fix salary scales for these groups and for each position. The pay plan is influenced by social and economic factors, such as changes in living costs and comparisons between pay levels in private industry and the public service; whereas a position-classification is concerned only with the work being done by the employees.

This confusion between classification and compensation plans leads to a second fallacy in the public mind, according to Mr. Baruch. The fallacy is that in classifying a position, emphasis is laid on the capabilities, qualifications and efficiency of the employee occupying it. The fact is, Mr. Baruch points out, position-classification is a classifying of jobs, not a classification of the employees occupying them nor of their abilities.

Other fallacies about position-classification, as listed by Mr. Baruch, are:

"It unduly restricts administrators and supervisors in assigning work and delegating responsibilities to employees under their supervision." Mr. Baruch says: Position-classification deals with the analysis and description of the duties and responsibilities of positions as they exist at any given time. It does not control work-assignments, the manner in which positions should be created or continued; nor does it control changing the character of duties.

"It segregates positions into narrow water-tight compartments, thus unduly hampering an employee's opportunities for promotion or transfer to other jobs." Mr. Baruch says: Position-classification aids rather than hinders promotion processes, because it furnishes the basis for determining present lines of promotion and developing new ones, for defining career avenues, for constructing training courses designed to equip employees for higher assignments, and for identifying misplaced employees.

"It is impracticable because jobs and their duties are always changing." Mr. Baruch points out that a position-classification plan is not something fixed and unchangeable, but a kind of perpetual inventory and that it should be active and growing in accordance with trends in the service itself.

The report appears under the title, "Facts and Fallacies about Position-Classifications," and is issued by the Civil Service Assembly.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
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Release No.6: For Sat., Dec. 18

Salaries

Salary Boosts Appear On More City Payrolls

Salary increases, some of them final restorations of depression-cuts, others designed to help city employees meet rising living costs, continue to appear on city payrolls, as reported to the Municipal Finance Officers' Association of the United States and Canada.

Two Kentucky cities--Frankfort and Bowling Green--raised official salaries this month. Frankfort increased the salaries of the new city officials, boosting the mayor from $1,000 to $1,800 per year. Bowling Green exactly doubled the salary of its mayor, from $1,200 to $2,400. Fort Worth, Tex. increased its municipal payroll by $50,000 for the 1938 fiscal year starting October 1. Three hundred and fifty employees received an average 10 per cent increase. Paterson, N. J. on the same date handed out full pay-envelopes to everybody from the mayor on down for the first time since 1932.

Among other cities that made pay-restorations during 1937 were: Lexington, Mass.; Topeka, Kans.; Belleville, Ill.; Birmingham, Ala., and Baltimore, Md. Big Spring, Tex. employees got an increase early in the year that sent their salary checks up 11 per cent. Across the Canadian border, Toronto and Calgary report salary restorations.

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State Board Takes Over 3 Maine Towns To Rehabilitate Finances

With the object of restoring financial soundness, or of cutting the cost of government, three insolvent towns in Maine recently were taken over by the Maine Emergency Municipal Finance Board; while 13 other Maine towns have acted to "de-organize" during the last three years, according to reports to the International City Managers' Association.

The emergency finance board is a state agency authorized by 1933-37 legislation. The act, as amended, provides that the board may take control of any municipality that drops a year and a half behind in the payment of state taxes; defaults on bond issues, or goes broke for any reason other than disbursements for emergency relief. When the board takes over a municipality, it may declare any and all town offices vacant and temporarily fill and supervise them. The board retains control of affairs until it feels that the municipality can resume operations.

The other 13 towns have "de-organized" because the cost of continuing the town government was believed excessive. Eight of these local governments have passed completely out of the picture, their normal functions absorbed by state and county. The other five abandoned the town form of government in favor of a "plantation," a simplified form. The "de-organization" takes place by local referendum, after passage of a special act by the state legislature.

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850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No. 1: For Mon. Dec. 20

"Residual Relief" Problem Attacked By Welfare Administrators

The area of "residual relief" -- what is left over in public assistance after the aged, dependent children and the blind have been cared for -- is the toughest financial nut that welfare and social security administrators have to crack, information furnished today by the American Public Welfare Association shows. Residual relief is oftener called unemployment or general relief.

It is estimated that annual emergency appropriations for public assistance (including the aged, dependent children and the blind) combined with residual relief have averaged $2,500,000,000 a year from all sources in the nation. Only about $500,000,000 represents revenues of taxation; $2,000,000,000 was raised by borrowing.

Administrators agree that long-term financial planning in residual relief is virtually impossible. States have grappled the problem in various ways. Pennsylvania has drafted an apparently balanced program by making a general appropriation for public assistance without allocating to the different categories. Other states favor special appropriations for old age assistance, aid to dependent children and aid to the blind, with general relief financed independently.

North Dakota's financing system is based on two variables, state funds and local funds, with flexibility at both levels. It is reported that certain western state legislatures, responding to public pressure, are earmarking increasing sums for old age assistance, leaving little leeway for general relief programs.

Welfare administrators attending the recent conference of the American Public Welfare Association in Washington stressed the fact that their own jobs are changing with changes in the relief picture. They find they need more and more expertness in public finance and taxation if they are to achieve the cooperation and coordination with other branches of government which is essential if relief and public assistance is to be properly financed and administered in the future.

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1937
Release No. 2: For Tues., Dec. 21

Uniform Codes Held Way To Solve Trailer Problems

The need for uniform action governing house trailers to the end that both trailer travellers and the industry "will not be hampered by the existence of varying and contradictory regulations in the different states" is emphasized in a report issued by the New York Joint Legislative Committee on Interstate Cooperation and the Council of State Governments.

The trailer movement is recognized as a governmental as well as a social problem, with the most recent estimates predicting that more house trailers will be built in the United States this year than new ordinary dwellings.

The polyglot mass of state and municipal regulations on trailers is treated in the report, which is being distributed to motor vehicle administrators, commissioners on interstate cooperation and other official bodies. Recognizing that to anticipate and pre-regulate what may happen in the next few years in trailer sociology would be "neither wise nor possible," the report offers the recommendations to point a middle way between "the injustice engendered by inertia and the chaos threatened by over-stringent and non-uniform regulation."

Chief proposals suggested are the following:

That state departments of health be empowered to make and enforce sanitary regulations for trailers and trailer camps. That the American Public Health Association or the Conference of State and Territorial Health Officers draw up a uniform code of sanitary regulations to provide for minimum trailer equipment, camp sanitation, and the keeping of trailer camp occupant registers.

That revenues be supplied states and local communities through registration fees, rentals and licensing, to offset additional expenses incurred in protecting, regulating and providing facilities for trailers.

That trailer coaches be given the same legal protection against burglary and entry as is afforded dwellings and buildings. (New York has already enacted such a law.)

That states add to their motor vehicle codes the following provisions: forms for accident reports especially designed for house trailers; restrictions on parking of trailers on highways; safety inspection laws; a trailer registration law; specific rulings on brakes, trailer dimensions, lights, etc.

Pioneer work toward uniformity in specific fields of the trailer problem has been done by several official and technical groups, the report points out. The American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators and its Eastern Conference, for example, have adopted a uniform code for safety equipment requirements. Uniform provisions for full reciprocity with regard to registration and registration fees, safety equipment and sanitary equipment, the report comments, "are essential to the free migration of the trailer tourists." In most cases they represent an expansion of the provisions now found in laws of the states that grant reciprocity with respect to motor vehicle registration and operators' licenses only.

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News Release of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
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1 9 3 7
Release No. 3: For Wed. Dec. 22

Pennsylvania's Central Purchasing Unit To Aid Local Governments

Centralized purchasing, practiced in approximately 230 city and 36 state governments in the United States, has a new chance to prove itself in Pennsylvania.

Under laws passed and made effective this year, Quaker state cities, counties, boroughs and townships may turn to the newly established State Department of Property and Supplies for prices and other information about the commodities they must buy, the Governmental Research Association reports. The new state purchasing department hopes to be able to negotiate contracts with the vendors supplying the state which will permit municipalities to secure commodities at the same prices paid by the state.

Municipalities in Pennsylvania have also just secured legislative authorization to establish joint purchasing agencies in order that the governmental units within a single county can pool their purchasing power and thereby secure the price and other advantages which can be obtained by large-quantity buying.

For an example of a successful joint-governmental unit purchasing, Pennsylvania cities may look to Cincinnati and Hamilton County, O. where a joint Purchasing Committeee has existed since 1931.

Cooperative municipal purchasing has been making definite progress in other jurisdictions. Leagues of municipalities in nearly a dozen states, according to the Governmental Research Association, are effecting savings for member cities by purchasing commodities in quantity lots. The Michigan Municipal League, first of these state groups to do centralized buying, now purchases for more than a hundred municipalities such items as fire hose, electric light bulbs, water meters, traffic paint, fire extinguishers and street signs. This cooperative municipal purchasing service keeps in touch with sources of supply, assembles specifications, tests materials, checks market conditions, buys the quality of goods required -- all at a considerable price advantage. Other states where leagues of municipalities are developing cooperative municipal purchasing services are: Iowa, Kentucky, Nebraska, North Carolina, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Virginia and Wisconsin.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No. 4: For Thurs. Dec.23

Police Use "White Collar" Workers To Study Beats, Fingerprint Filing

Police chiefs who wish to keep step with modern police science but lack funds for elaborate improvements, can acquire two assets through the WPA "white collar" projects of police beat studies and single fingerprint file installations, the International Association of Chiefs of Police pointed out today.

Cities large or small are eligible for WPA aid on this type of work. Recently police departments in Lowell, Mass.; Hartford, Conn., and Cincinnati, O. have made studies of police beats as WPA projects, while single fingerprint file installations have been approved for Detroit and Cleveland.

WPA aid is limited to helping police officials solve problems arising from the normal operations of their officers, without furnishing any of the usual services necessary for everyday activity of police departments, explains the "Police Chiefs' News Letter," official bulletin of the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

In the case of the patrol study, police records are analyzed to show which areas of the city offer the biggest and most frequent crime hazards, so that the needs of particular sections for police service can be accurately translated into police time and police power.

The single fingerprint file installation, laid out by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, involves the classification and filing of individual finger impressions, so that the print of only one finger at the scene of a crime may act as an identification. Federal agents are urging that duplicates of the fingerprint records made under these WPA projects be sent to Washington, to become a part of the national file, which now totals about 7,000,000 prints.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No. 5: For Fri. Dec. 24

Personnel, Public - Adm.

C.S.A. Names Committee On Standards Of Personnel Administration

The Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada today named three men prominent in public administration as members of its national committee to establish professional standards for those engaged in public personnel administration.

The new committee, created by the Civil Service Assembly as the first of its kind in the personnel field, is composed of Dr. Charles P. Messick, Chief Examiner and Secretary of the New Jersey State Civil Service Commission and chairman of the New Jersey State Planning Commission, Chairman; Dr. Clarence A. Dykstra, president of the University of Wisconsin, and former city manager of Cincinnati; and Dr. Leonard D. White, Professor of Public Administration at the University of Chicago, and former member of the U. S. Civil Service Commission.

Similar in purpose to professional standards committees in medicine, engineering and other fields, the C.S.A. Committee on Professional Standards will work out terms of a resolution adopted at the Assembly's 1937 conference.

Under these terms, appropriate standards will be set up for three grades of professional competence: Junior in Public Personnel Administration, Associate in Public Personnel Administration and Fellow in Public Personnel Administration. Certificates of these titles will be granted public personnel administrators whose qualifications meet the committee's standards.

To aid those wishing to qualify for certificates, the Committee on Professional Standards is to outline experience and training requirements, prepare a study guide, and write a code of ethics for those engaged in public personnel administration. A breach of the code will be considered sufficient cause for suspension or revocation of a certificate.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No. 6: For Sat.,Dec. 25

Detroit Public Works Employees Going To "School"

Training - Public works officials

Between 80 and 100 men who work for the Detroit department of public works can be expected to know considerably more about their jobs in relation to the general city administration when they receive their "diplomas" sometime in 1938. They are enrolled in in-service training classes conducted two hours each week at Wayne University, reports the American Public Works Association.

Instruction is given not only in the many phases of public works -- roads and streets, street sanitation, refuse collection -- but also on general problems of municipal government. The Detroit example is one that a number of American cities are following to acquaint the men-on-the-job with new public works methods and with the workings of city government.

Dallas Taps New Sources To Meet Rising Costs

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New revenues to bear the cost of increased salaries, the continuing relief burden and growing city services are sought by most municipalities. Dallas, Tex., according to the International City Managers' Association, will try to solve her 1938 financial problems from these sources:

A new taxicab franchise, effective January 1, under which the city will receive 4 per cent of the gross earnings of cab companies, estimated to be $26,208 for the year; a "seat tax" on buses, expected to produce $9,752 for the city; a 4 per cent gross receipts tax on the telephone company, estimated to produce $16,027 more in 1938 than this year, and revenues from parking meters, which will probably amount to $146,000.

Civic Agencies Aid Housing By Spotting Blighted Areas

Housing

Civic organizations in several cities are contributing their part to the low-cost housing drive by aiding in the discovery of sub-standard housing conditions, according to the National Association of Housing Officials. The Metropolitan Housing Council in Chicago, voluntary citizens' housing organization, has recently inaugurated the inspection and reporting of bad housing conditions, following the lead of similar organizations in Philadelphia, New York, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and Washington. Most of the citizens' associations have broad programs designed to improve housing conditions in their communities through stimulation of demolition of unfit housing; rehabilitation of dwellings and areas where warranted; and proper maintenance of existing dwellings, as well as the stimulation of new low-rent housing. Their procedure is to call conditions to the attention of the proper city departments and to work with every force in the community, private as well as public, that is concerned with housing.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1 9 3 7
Release No. 1: For Mon. Dec. 27

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6-Point Program Urged As Cities Face 1938 Problems Led By Relief Dilemma

A six-point program for American cities in their effort to forecast the chief obstacles they must hurdle in 1938 was suggested today by the American Municipal Association.

All of the six problems, commented Clifford W. Ham, executive director of the American Municipal Association, are extensions of business left unfinished in 1937. Most of them involve the further strengthening of the relationships between local, state and federal governments first created during the economic emergency.

The most acute problems which the American Municipal Association believes will demand the "direct, immediate and mutual attention" of cities, include:

1. Financing relief and adjusting to the removal of PWA as a factor in public works programs. With the liquidation of PWA, following exhaustion of the $350,000,000 remaining in its appropriation, cities will have lost one source of employing their jobless. At the same time they must gear future public works improvements back into a regular municipally financed program. The problem of relief does not let up. Continued federal support, with its attendant question of distribution of the whole burden, its administration and standards, faces all levels of government. However, authorities express the opinion that constructive relief programs still depend upon a resurvey of public revenues, and an allocation of income made among levels of government on the basis of needs and responsibilities.

2. Low-cost housing. Under the 1937 Wagner-Steagall housing act, cities in the 30 states that have housing authority enabling laws are empowered to go ahead with slum clearance and low-rent housing projects. Cities in the other 18 states must await enabling legislation by their legislatures. Those already legally prepared to proceed must find a way to finance projects with the aid of federal loans and grants.

3. Airports. Cities must find a way to support operation of and to finance improvements on their airport facilities, now representing an investment of

(MORE)

$300,000,000, if they are to accommodate enlarged air-traffic. A conference between the U.S. Bureau of Air Commerce and municipal representatives late in 1937 resulted in appointment of a committee by the federal bureau to propose plans for future development of the aviation industry, and to allocate responsibility for these municipal projects which also benefit state and federal governments.

4. The House-Trailer. How stringent should local ordinances on house-trailers be made? In 1937 over 50 cities decided that the problem, though in its infant stage, could not be solved simply by prohibiting trailer parking and occupancy of camps within city limits. They passed laws to limit the staying-period, regulate sanitation, and in a few cases to arrange for police protection and other ordinary municipal services. With the construction of more trailers than housing units in 1937, the coming year may see the problem get out of control unless it receives the attention of municipal and state officials in the fields of health, relief, police, fire, taxation and recreation.

5. Retirement systems for municipal employees. Adoption of the Federal Social Security Act providing unemployment insurance and old age retirement benefits for industrial employees called attention to the inadequacy of retirement systems for most local employees, who number nearly 700,000. Pending decision as to the extension of the Social Security Act to include public employees, the several states can invoke their own power to establish comprehensive pension programs, into which the cities can enter.

6. Training for public employees. With the inclusion of public employee-training under vocational education appropriations made in 1937 (the George-Deen Act) cities have an opportunity to arrange for the training of their employees on the job. Federal funds for the purpose are to be matched with state contributions, but cooperation of cities is necessary to plan the activities.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1 9 3 7
Release No.2: For Tues., Dec. 28

All Tax Revenue Gains $4,200,000,000 In 5 Years, While Federal Aid Rises

Estimated tax revenues for governments within the United States have increased from $8,300,000,000 in 1932, the pit of the depression, to $12,500,000,000 in 1937, a gain of $4,200,000,000 in recovery years, the Federation of Tax Administrators reported today. In the intervening year of 1935, the total was $9,800,000,000.

Within the five-year period 1932-1937 the federal government's share of tax revenue has increased, and that of local governments has decreased. However, it is pointed out that meantime the percentage of local revenue coming from the federal government rose from zero in 1932 to 24.5 in 1935, and was still higher in 1937. State revenues from the federal government rose from 12.5 in 1932 to 22.2 in 1935. Meanwhile, the states, since 1932 have consistently collected a one-fifth segment of the American tax dollar.

In 1935, under emergency circumstances, federal government grants and aid to states reached $653,000,000 and to localities, $1,557,000,000.

The Federation of Tax Administrators stressed the knotty problems of tax administration caused by the federal government collecting larger proportions of the nation's taxes and turning over more to states and localities; and by the states entering new fiscal relationships with their local subdivisions.

Additional data on the division of America's tax dollar revealed the following estimates:

Tax revenues	1932	1935	1937
Federal government	$1,900,000,000	$3,600,000,000	$ 5,500,000,000
State governments	1,700,000,000	1,900,000,000	2,500,000,000
Local governments	4,700,000,000	4,300,000,000	4,500,000,000
Totals	$8,300,000,000	$9,800,000,000	$12,500,000,000

Percentages are: 1932-- federal, 23 per cent; states, 20 per cent, and localities, 57 per cent: 1935-- federal, 37 per cent; states, 19 per cent; and localities, 44 per cent: 1937-- federal, 44 per cent; states, 20 per cent; and localities, 36 per cent.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois
1937
Release No.3: For Wed., Dec. 29

Nine New States Pass Laws To Curb Hasty Marriage - Legislation

Hasty marriage received further legislative setbacks this year, with nine states enacting or revising laws establishing waiting periods between marriage license applications and the actual wedding ceremony, a year-end survey by the Council of State Governments shows. The nine states are: Illinois, Iowa, Maryland, Minnesota, New York, Tennessee, West Virginia, Wisconsin and Wyoming. Their action brings the total number of anti-hasty marriage states to twenty-six.

Waiting periods set up in the new laws vary from two days to ten days. Among all states with such restrictions, Delaware, with a delay of 24 hours, has the shortest wait, while Wisconsin has the longest, requiring a lapse of ten days before would-be honey-mooners may obtain a license. Two states require a two-day wait; eight states and the District of Columbia, three days, and fourteen other states, five days.

Several of the nation's best known "Gretna Greens" were erased this year by new laws in Maryland and West Virginia. California, Mississippi, Ohio and other states which have rigid marriage statutes have learned that impatient couples find hasty wedding accommodations in nearby towns across the border in states more lenient.

This year's Illinois law imposing a three-day waiting period helped make marriage a major industry in Crown Point and Valparaiso, Ind. Governor M. Clifford Townsend, of Indiana, recently urged that his state's marriage laws follow its neighbors, most of whom provide a waiting period and two of whom, Illinois and Wisconsin, have hygienic marriage laws.

Three states, Alabama, North Dakota and Wyoming, this year passed laws requiring that the man must undergo social disease tests before marriage, while Illinois, Michigan, New Hampshire, Oregon and Wisconsin made this requirement for both applicants. The New Hampshire law is effective Oct. 31, 1938, and the Oregon law is subject to a referendum at the 1938 election. Ten states now require that one or both parties to the marriage contract undergo such tests.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.4: For Thurs., Dec. 30

Motor vehicles - [illegible]

Cities Test "Main Street" Parking Ban As Way To Untangle Traffic

A permanent ban on parking on Main Street may result from the nation-wide search by American cities for a way to keep busy thoroughfares free for moving traffic, the American Society of Planning Officials said today. While diverse remedies for the congestion caused by ever-increasing automobile traffic are being tried, several cities already have turned to off-the-street parking space as the best solution.

For motorists who do not run their cars into commercial parking lots or garages, the various cities are now (1) using metered parking, at a small hourly fee which takes care of the short-time or transient parker; (2) requiring off-street parking facilities before issuing building permits for theaters, office buildings and apartments; (3) renting or taking over through tax-lien space for municipal parking lots.

New York, seeking to relieve traffic-choked Manhattan streets, is about to put into effect an express traffic plan under which 10 selected streets will carry crosstown traffic. Motorists are already being warned by holly-decorated courtesy signs that after January 3, parking will be prohibited on these streets, with strict enforcement promised. Meantime, a proposed City Parking Authority to build and operate parking garages, is being studied.

Cities with chronic parking troubles are advised by the A.S.P.O. to make a community-wide traffic survey before choosing a remedy. Such a study includes: checking the volume of traffic on major and minor thoroughfares, with consideration of the origin and destination of vehicles; the number and types of hindrances to traffic flow; the extent of need for parking areas, both off-street in the congested business district and on-street in areas conveniently near; the extent, location, and assessed valuation of vacant property in the congested district that might be cleared for parking lots.

Cities that have made comprehensive surveys have discovered surprising information on parking. A transportation study made by narrow-streeted Nashville, for example, showed that all parking could be banned on the streets of the central business district without particularly inconveniencing the motorist. Although there were 2,240 curb spaces for legal parking at one time, only 680 cars could be accommodated in unrestricted spaces.

Detroit found that even with the fair amount of open-air parking space available at present because of depressed real estate, off-street parking accomodations in the congested district provided space for only 32,143 vehicles, and that there were only 2,724 curb spaces for unlimited parking.

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News Bulletin of
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois

1 9 3 7
Release No.5: For Fri., Dec. 31

States Place 24,000 Employees Under Civil Service In 1937

With Michigan launching its new merit system program January 1, a total of approximately 24,000 employees in various state governments will have been placed under civil service as a result of 1937 legislation, the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada said today. The five states acting this year, and total employees affected are: Michigan, 10,000; Arkansas, Maine, and Tennessee, 3,000 each; and Connecticut, 5,000.

Michigan has several innovations in her merit system act, according to the Civil Service Assembly. One is the provision for an investigation, by 1940, of the need for every existing position in the classified service. A second unusual feature provides in-service training for state employees under a separate division to be established after the personnel system is well installed. Part of this plan involves the selection of twelve apprentices who will be trained on the staff of the Michigan State Civil Service Department, to be eligible later by promotional examination for junior technical positions on the regular staff. The Michigan Civil Service Commission is a three-member, bi-partisan agency, appointed by the governor.

Arkansas, first state to adopt a civil service law in 1937, has nearly completed its employee classification. Notable features of the Arkansas law are the large proportion of positions placed in the classified service, and the freedom from veterans' preference and rigid residence restrictions. The Arkansas State Civil Service Commission is authorized to perform technical personnel services for counties and cities at their request.

Tennessee's merit system act, adopted in February, established a Division of Personnel in the Department of Administration. Maine's new merit system, which went into effect in July, set up a State Personnel Board of three members, including the State Budget Officer. Connecticut, returning to civil service after 16 years, has a Personnel Department with a director and an advisory committee composed of ten administrative heads of the state government.

State interest in civil service adoption is evidenced elsewhere as the year closes, the Civil Service Assembly reports. The governor of Georgia has recommended that the legislature pass a state merit system law. The proposal is contemplated also in Alabama, Arizona, Kansas, Minnesota and South Carolina.

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